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MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION



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March 1st, 2024

Delegate Marc Korman, Chair
House Environment and Transportation Committee
Room 251, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 956 – UNFAVORABLE – Public-Private Partnerships (P3) Oversight and Accountability Act

Dear Chair Korman and Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Asphalt Association (MAA) is comprised of 19 producer members representing more than 48 production facilities, 25 contractor members, 25 consulting engineer firms, and 41 other associate members. MAA works proactively with regulatory agencies to represent the interests of the asphalt industry both in the writing and interpretation of state and federal regulations that may affect our members. We also advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland's multimodal transportation system.

House Bill 956 would establish the Public-Private Partnership (P3) Oversight Review Board that would review P3 pre-solicitation reports and make recommendations regarding the designation of a public infrastructure asset as a P3. This bill is entirely redundant and unnecessary. The State already has an oversight review board that reviews P3 projects called the Board of Public Works ("BPW"). We cannot understand why such a board is needed when the BPW already reviews all the tasks listed in this bill. Enacting such legislation would only further delay necessary transportation projects in our State and undermine the processes already in place.

We appreciate you taking the time to consider our request for an **UNFAVORABLE** report on HB 956.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tim Smith, P.E.
President
Maryland Asphalt Association