

February 20, 2024

RE: In support of Senate Bill – 0479

Dear Committee Chair William Smith & Vice-Chair Jeffery Waldstreicher and members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee.:

My name is Brian Sweeney and I am writing as a representative of Dimensional Products Inc. (DPI) of Finksburg Maryland.

DPI was established in 2001 with the goal of developing and distributing a Truck Mounted Attenuator (TMA). TMA's are mounted to heavy trucks and act as crash worthy cushions which protect the occupants of wayward vehicles, while the truck itself acts as a barrier to protect highway workers in short term work zones. Dozens of TMA-equipped trucks are deployed by agencies and contractors every day in Maryland. DPI's product line has evolved to include other highway safety products, many of which may be used in temporary work-zone applications or installed as permanent safety devices.

I am writing in support of Senate Bill # 0479 – *Maryland Road Worker Protection Act of 2024*. Every day several hundreds of workers place themselves in or near harm's way, in service of Maryland residents, visitors, and industries. These people have families, friends, and plans for the future. The recent crash on I-695 brought the risks these people take in service of our economy into sharp relief. Maryland's economy will suffer without safe and adequate infrastructure. Technologies such as early warning queue detection, Temporary Portable Rumble Strips (TPRS), Smart Work Zone (SWZ) IT products, and automated speed enforcement can help to address driver distraction and make our roadways safer for motorists and highway workers alike. I have known several people who have been injured in work zone crashes, and I met one of the people killed in the I-695 crash several times. None of us are far removed from the dangers encountered by highway construction workers every day.

I appreciate the hard work and advocacy of Gov. Moore and Lt. Gov. Miller to advance highway and work zone safety. I urge the Maryland State Senate to vote in favor of Senate Bill 0479.

Sincerely,



Brian Sweeney  
Dimensional Products Inc.

cc: Senate President Bill Ferguson  
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee Members

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