



MARYLAND STATE & D.C. AFL-CIO

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**HB 80 - Land Use - Transit-Oriented Development - Alterations
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
March 27, 2025**

SUPPORT

**Donna S. Edwards
President**

Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO

Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 80. My name is Donna S. Edwards, and I am the President of the Maryland State and District of Columbia AFL-CIO. On behalf of Maryland's 300,000 union members, I offer the following comments.

Access to transit is essential for many people in our state. Encouraging smart development near transit stations increases access to jobs, education, healthcare, and other essential services that many of our residents rely on.

HB 80 proposes a number of measures to update our state's framework of transit-oriented development (TOD) and remove barriers to mixed-use development and growth. Importantly, this legislation recognizes the workers who build TODs by requiring projects to adhere to prevailing wage laws and use project labor agreements (PLAs). This ensures that TOD projects are built by a well-trained and fairly compensated workforce, supporting families, our economy, and the future of our transit system.

For these reasons, we urge a favorable vote on HB 80.