

JACQUELINE T. ADDISON
Legislative District 45
Baltimore City

Environment and
Transportation Committee

Subcommittees

Natural Resources, Agriculture,
and Open Space

Motor Vehicles and Transportation

Local Government and
Bi-County Agencies



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 317
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3551 · 301-858-3551
800-492-7122 Ext. 3551
Jackie.Addison@house.state.md.us

March 25, 2025

Chair Pamela Beidle
Vice Chair Antonio Hayes
3 East Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Favorable Testimony in Support of House Bill 1144-State Public Transit Service and Stations – Exclusion for Assault and Bodily Injury

Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hayes and members of the Senate Finance Committee

For the record I am Delegate Jackie T. Addison, here urging a favorable report on HB 1144 State Public Transit Service and Stations – Exclusion for Assaults and Bodily Injury

This bill simply mandates the MTA, in consultation with WMATA and Labor, to convene a workgroup to create a rider code of conduct and implement a comprehensive internal safety program to strengthen protections for passengers and public transit operators that shall include ridership bans.

It's a common-sense measure designed to protect the men and women who keep our transit systems running every day. Transit workers should not have to fear for their safety while doing their jobs. Unfortunately, we have seen tragic incidents where workers have been assaulted and even killed while serving the public.

There was a vigorous amendments process, all the affected Stakeholders weighed in, and the bill reflects this spirit of compromise, however some of their concerns cannot outweigh the need to protect our frontline workers. We have a responsibility to ensure they can work without the constant threat of violence.

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I urge this committee to stand with our transit workers and support House Bill 1144. Thank you.