

March 11, 2025

 Delegate Vanessa Atterbeary, Chair, House Ways & Means Committee -<u>Vanessa.Atterbeary@house.state.md.us</u>; 410-841-3471.

## **Dear Delegate Atterbeary,**

I urge you to reject the sales tax on services included in HB1554/SB1045, particularly its piling on the trucking industry by the inclusion of "heavy truck or bus repair." This tax is coercive because trucks are required under both Federal and state law to go through a regular preventive maintenance inspection and repair program to ensure our vehicles are in safe condition. Maryland trucks frequently go through this program 4 to 5 times per year.

Adding a sales tax on labor for truck repairs ignores who will be the primary businesses harmed – small, local trucking companies. These are businesses that do not have their own maintenance shops or mechanics; whereby large companies frequently perform this work in-house. It is not uncommon today for the labor charges on a vehicle repair to exceed the charges for parts and supplies.

Adding a sales tax on repair services will also drive-up insurance costs for post-accident work that is frequently covered by our insurance policy.

Our trucks deliver the essential products that Marylanders need. Our citizens literally have nothing without trucking. Vote against this targeted attack on the trucking industry!

Best Regards,

Sue Monaghan

President