



TESTIMONY FOR HB0368

Maryland Transit Administration – Funding (Transit Safety and Investment Act)

Bill Sponsor: Delegate Lierman

Committee: Appropriations

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB0368 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of individuals and grassroots groups with members in every district in the state. We have over 30,000 members across the state.

We support working Marylanders who need a good public transportation system to get to work and go about their daily lives. We support the environment and we know that putting more cars on the road only makes the environmental crisis we are facing that much more dire. We understand that not everyone lives in privilege and can't afford a car, even if building more roads was not such a fraught solution.

We need public transportation. Not just what we have, but a good infrastructure for the future. But how can we get that infrastructure if the one we have is crumbling from lack of funding? If we can't even manage to support the systems that we have already built, we have no foundation for the future.

Maryland has no future if we can't get people to their jobs. Jobs will locate in areas with good infrastructure. This is a problem that we've waited too long to solve.

We support this bill and we believe it is a very important key to our future. I recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.