



## MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE LATINO CAUCUS

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TO: Delegate Maggie McIntosh, Chair  
Delegate Michael A. Jackson, Vice Chair  
Appropriations Committee Members

From: Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus

RE: HB368 Maryland Transit Administration - Funding (Transit Safety and Investment Act)

### **The MLLC supports HB368 Maryland Transit Administration - Funding (Transit Safety and Investment Act)**

The MLLC is a bipartisan group of Senators and Delegates committed to supporting legislation which improves the lives of Latinos throughout our state. The MLLC is a voice in the development of public policy affecting the Latino community and the state of Maryland. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to express our support of HB368.

The Latino community, in addition to other people of color and low income families, is more likely to be directly impacted by underfunded public transportation systems. For these families, lack of public transportation restricts their access to critical destinations, such as work and school. Without adequate transportation, it becomes difficult for these affected individuals to reach employment and academic opportunities to prosper in our society. We are calling on our State to ensure the proper funding for the operation and capital needs of the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA), in order to provide sufficient transportation services to all Marylanders.

HB368 would allocate funding to the MTA for safer, more reliable, public transportation. This bill also requires the MTA to assess their capital needs at least once every three years, ensuring the MTA does not go underfunded any longer. With a rapidly growing Latino community and a population that relies heavily on public transportation, it is critical that MTA obtains the necessary funds for the years to come. HB368 would allow for the much needed improvements to restore and add public transportation throughout the counties in Maryland. Providing Marylanders with reliable access to public transportation is possible with HB368.

The MLLC supports this bill and urges your favorable report of HB368.