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Governor  
Boyd K. Rutherford  
Lt. Governor  
Gregory Slater  
Acting Secretary

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January 30, 2020

The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky  
Chair, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee  
2 West Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis MD 21401

***RE: Letter of Information – Senate Bill 184 – University of Maryland, Baltimore - Study on the Health Effects of Air Traffic Noise***

Dear Chair Pinsky and Committee Members,

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) takes no position on Senate Bill 184, but offers the following letter of information for the Committee's consideration.

Senate Bill 184 would require the University of Maryland, Baltimore to study the health effects of air traffic noise on communities near the Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall (BWI Marshall) Airport since the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) implementation of the Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen).

The FAA is currently undertaking a national study to determine the effects of aircraft noise on sleeping habits and exposure-response relationships between aircraft noise and its effect on communities. Furthermore, several studies have previously been conducted on the specific issue of aircraft noise impacts with respect to community health, environment, and several other factors. The FAA estimates the aircraft noise study will be completed in two years.

The Maryland Department of Transportation respectfully requests that the Committee consider this information as it deliberates Senate Bill 184.

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