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MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION



SECRETARY: David Slaughter TREASURER: Jeff Graf PRESIDENT: G. Marshall Klinefelter

February 11, 2020

Delegate Kumar P. Barve, Chair **Environment and Transportation Committee** 251 House Office Building 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, Maryland 21401

OPPOSE

Re: HOUSE BILL 299 – PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS- REAL **PROPERTY ACOUISITION – PROHIBITION**

Dear Chairman Barve and Committee Members:

The Maryland Asphalt Association is comprised of 18 producer members representing more than 47 production facilities, 21 contractor members, 24 consulting engineer firms and 39 other associate members. We proactively work with regulatory agencies to represent the interests of the asphalt industry both in the writing and interpretation of state and federal regulations that may affect our members. We also advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland's multimodal transportation system.

HB 299 would significantly encumber the State's traffic relief plan by prohibiting Public-Private Partnerships from acquiring residential real property needed to expand I-495 and I-270. We strongly believe that the I-495 and I-270 Managed Lanes Program will greatly alleviate highway congestion, cut down on emissions and pollution caused by idling cars, and allow commuters to travel safely and efficiently through the State. By revoking the Public-Private Partnerships' ability to acquire land needed to rectify a critical state concern, it will make the execution of the Maryland's current relief plan nearly impossible and will take away any impactful development that would positively affect the State of Maryland and its citizens.

We appreciate you taking the time to address this important issue and we urge an unfavorable report on House Bill 299.

Thank you, 7. LIVK Rought

Marshall Klinefelter President Maryland Asphalt Association

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