



## Maryland Municipal League

*The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns*

# TESTIMONY

February 13, 2020

**Committee:** House Environment & Transportation

**Bill:** HB 292– Toll Roads, Highways, and Bridges – County Government Consent Requirement - Expansion

**Position:** Support

**Reason for Position:**

The Maryland Municipal League supports HB 292. This bill expands the requirement that a State agency receive the express consent of a majority of the affected Eastern Shore county governments before it constructs a toll road, toll highway, or toll bridge in those counties. Under the bill, this requirement is expanded to apply to all counties in the State (including Baltimore City) if they are affected by any such toll road, toll highway, or toll bridge

With 157 municipalities in Maryland, located in all but two counties, it stands to reason that the construction of a toll road, toll highway, or toll bridge could have a significant impact on one or more municipalities in that region. Language in the bill added at the request of MML states that such roads and bridges may not be constructed “without the express consent of a majority of the governments of the affected counties.” This allows municipalities in a county to also weigh in to provide their input when such construction is contemplated.

For these reasons, the League supports HB 292 and respectfully requests that the committee report the bill favorably.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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