



THE GREATER BETHESDA
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

Smart Business, Bright Future

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**STATEMENT BY
THE GREATER BETHESDA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
REGARDING
HB1220 - PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS – HIGHWAY AND BRIDGE TOLL
FACILITIES – RATES (NO LEXUS LANE ACT)
HOUSE ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
MARCH 5, 2020
POSITION: UNFAVORABLE REPORT**

On behalf of our 550-member businesses and more than 45,000 employees in Montgomery County, this statement is in **Opposition of HB1220 - Public-Private Partnerships – Highway and Bridge Toll Facilities – Rates (No Lexus Lane Act)**.

This proposed legislation once again seeks to undermine the basic underpinnings of the P3 process and the delicate and undisputed balance created by the managed lanes that will be created by the Traffic Relief Plan. Artificially limiting toll rates is counterintuitive to the premise behind managed lanes. Best practices encourage use of a range of toll rates that are dependent upon levels of congestion. We must resist ideas such as these that make little sense and are crafted only to hinder the much-needed widening of 270 and the reconstruction of the American Legion Bridge.

The thousands of employees we represent in Montgomery County are harassed daily by the woes of severe traffic congestion. A majority of our residents want you to hear their plea: we need road improvements to move us out of the morass of congestion. Severe traffic during peak hours seriously limits the ability of our region to compete economically. We urge you to move beyond the obvious politics of bills such as this and vote to oppose this potentially limiting legislation.

Thank you.