

TESTIMONY OF ROB WINDLEY ON BEHALF OF THE
SUBURBAN MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE
AGAINST HB 1220

ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

MARCH 5, 2020

Mr. Chairman, for the record, my name is Rob Windley, and I appreciate this opportunity to testify on behalf of the Suburban Maryland Transportation Alliance in opposition to HB 1220.

Express lane tolls fluctuate based on the level of traffic using the lanes. The purpose of this is to ensure that commuters have the ability to continue to move on the lanes at a steady pace.

By "prohibit[ing] toll rates that exceed 10 cents per mile under certain circumstances," this bill pollutes the proven science behind express lanes that allows them to function the way they were intended.

Additionally, it is misleading to title this bill the *No Lexus Lane Act*. It is a complete falsehood to suggest or infer that only wealthy people use express lanes. In fact, on many toll roads and express lanes in Maryland, the average cost of the tolls--even during rush hour commutes--is less than the cost of a 12 pack of soda.

I thank the Committee for this opportunity and ask that members vote "NO" on HB 1220.