

## Testimony Concerning HB1236 "Maryland Area Regional Commuter Train - Expansion of Service" Submitted to the House Environment and Transportation Committee March 5, 2020

## **Position: Support**

The Prince George's Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1924 and is the leading voice for business in Prince George's County. The Chamber is a non-profit alliance of over 500 businesses, representing over a quarter of a million employees, making it one of the largest chambers in the Washington Metropolitan region.

HB 1236 would enhance MARC service for existing riders throughout the state, ease access to jobs and generate prospects for inclusive economic growth along MARC stations. For Prince George's and the region this could mean more walkable communities, less congestion and if done correctly a more responsive housing market.

The Chamber applauds the Committee's commitment to improving the region's rail system and your work to enhance transportation connections throughout the Washington Metropolitan region. We urge the Environment & Transportation Committee to take action to maximize MARC's potential by issuing a favorable report on HB 1236.

Sincerely,

David C. Harrington President & CEO Prince George's Chamber of Commerce