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MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION



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March 5, 2020

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

OPPOSE

Re: **HOUSE BILL 1424 – PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS – PROCESS AND OVERSIGHT**

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 1424 would establish the Public-Private Partnership Oversight Review Board that would review P3 pre-solicitation reports and make recommendations regarding the designation of a public infrastructure asset as a P3. This bill is entirely redundant and unnecessary. The State already has an oversight review board that reviews P3 projects called the Board of Public Works ("BPW"). In fact, the three members who make up the Board of Public Works – the Governor, the Treasurer, and the Comptroller – would be required members of this P3 Oversight Review Board. We cannot understand why such a board is needed when the BPW already reviews all of the tasks listed in this bill. Enacting such legislation would only further delay necessary transportation projects in our State and undermine the processes already in place.

We appreciate you taking the time to address this important issue and we respectfully urge an unfavorable report on House Bill 1424.

Thank you,

Marshall Klinefelter
President
Maryland Asphalt Association