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March 5, 2020

# Testimony on HB 1526 – Transportation Carbon Reduction Fund - Establishment Environment & Transportation

**Position: Favorable** 

The Central Maryland Transportation Alliance supports HB 1526.

The Transportation & Climate Initiative (TCI) is a regional collaboration of Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states that seeks to reduce carbon emissions from the transportation sector while improving transportation options for residents.

In the U.S. and the State of Maryland, the transportation sector is the number one source of greenhouse gas emissions. If the State is going to address the on-going climate crisis then the transportation sector will have to play a key role. Investments in public transportation, bicycling, walking, and electrification will be necessary. As will land use strategies that bring people and jobs closer together thereby reducing dependence on driving and lowering vehicle miles traveled.

The Transportation Carbon Reduction Fund and accompanying workgroup will help to ensure that the revenue generated by TCI will be spent on the projects and programs that are prioritized for maximizing the benefits across a host of outcomes, including emissions reductions, public health, and access to jobs, among others.

We encourage a favorable report.