

# **Anne Arundel County\_FAV\_SB456**

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February 12, 2020

**Senate Bill 456**

**Transportation - Third Chesapeake Bay Crossing - Study**

**Senate Finance Committee**

**Position: FAVORABLE**

Anne Arundel County **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 456 - Transportation - Third Chesapeake Bay Crossing - Study.

This Bill would require the Maryland Transportation Institute at the University of Maryland to conduct a study on adding a third Chesapeake Bay crossing and potential impacts on traffic, health, and the environment, as well as make recommendations for short and long-term solutions to alleviate traffic congestion. A third bridge located in Anne Arundel County would bring significantly more traffic through the County and place an increased burden on its transportation infrastructure. Many County roads are already at, or beyond, capacity. It is critical that in planning for an additional bridge across the Chesapeake Bay that we make the highest and best use of our roadways, as well as examine the feasibility of transportation alternatives like those proposed in this Bill.

It is also important to take into account the health and environmental impacts of creating a third span. Not only will construction impact the health of the Bay in the area around the bridge, but increased traffic leads to increased air pollution, which impacts both the natural environment and the health of those in surrounding communities. It is vital that this be taken into consideration and is included as part of the study's mandate.

Finally, it is important to take into account those communities located closest to a new bridge span that would feel the greatest impact. While a third bridge span benefits all Marylanders, it would impact those living close to it every day, which is why including the opportunity for the public to comment being included in the study is so important.

Accordingly, Anne Arundel County respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE** report on Senate Bill 456.

## **Beidle\_FAV\_SB456**

Uploaded by: Senator Beidle, Senator Beidle

Position: FAV

PAMELA G. BEIDLE  
Legislative District 32  
Anne Arundel County

Finance Committee

*Vice Chair*

Executive Nominations Committee



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 12, 2020

**SB456**

**Transportation - Third Chesapeake Bay Crossing - Study**

Chairman Kelley and Members of the Finance Committee;  
Chairman Guzzone and Members of Budget and Taxation;

Thank you for the opportunity to introduce SB456, Transportation - Third Chesapeake Bay Crossing – Study. SB 456 requires the Maryland Transit Institute (MTI) at the University of Maryland to conduct a study on the addition of a third Chesapeake Bay crossing at the current bridge site. The study would include short and long traffic solutions, any potential health and environmental impact the addition would create, provide opportunities for public input and comment from surrounding communities, and develop recommendations for addressing any potential health and environmental impact of construction and operating a third span.

The study will address not only the third Chesapeake Bay crossing but the traffic on Maryland Route 50, Route 97 and the local arteries as well. Already our constituent's face constant backups just to get home, without crossing the bridge. Expanding the bridge capacity will only make it possible to cross the bay quicker, not access the bridge. This traffic situation stresses not only those crossing the bridge, but also our constituents trying go about daily life activities - working, shopping, deliveries, service calls and most important, emergency services. The Governor has publicly announced that no other location will be considered for the construction other than expansion at the current site. This means that the traffic in Anne Arundel County or Queen Anne's County approaching the Bay Bridge will be heavily impacted.

This study will allow us to view the problem in its entirety and not just as a bridge crossing location.

I ask for the Committees favorable report on SB456.

PAMELA BEIDLE  
CHAIR

SARAH ELFRETH  
EDWARD REILLY  
JAMES ROSAPEPE  
BRYAN SIMONAIRE



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401  
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY DELEGATION

February 12, 2020

The Honorable Delores G. Kelley, Chair  
Senate Finance Committee  
2 East, Miller Senate Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chair  
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee  
3 West, Miller Senate Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairman Kelley, Chairman Guzzone and Members of Finance and Budget and Taxation;

The Anne Arundel County Senators met and considered SB 456, Transportation – Third Chesapeake Bay Crossing - Study. They voted to support SB 456.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pamela G. Beidle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P".

Pamela G. Beidle, Chair  
Anne Arundel County  
Senate Delegation