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**Sponsor Testimony for House Bill 72 -  
MDTA - Video Streaming and Archiving - Open Meetings  
Before the Health and Government Operations Committee  
January 29, 2020**

House Bill 72 would require the MDTA, Maryland's toll roads agency, to begin making their board meetings available to the public via online video streaming and archiving. It is identical to HB21 which passed the House of Delegates in 2019.

The public increasingly expects government agencies to embrace technology to improve their outreach, including video streaming of public meetings.

The nine-member MDTA board meets monthly in open session to discuss and approve policy and operations activity. Additionally, two committee meetings are held monthly: the Capital Committee and Finance Committee.

The MDTA board's deliberations are of great interest to Marylanders. The MDTA board is the only entity in Maryland authorized in state law to set toll rates. Several important activities are planned or underway. In the coming months and years, the MDTA is expected to: 1) continue converting toll facilities to cashless operation, 2) consider toll enforcement reciprocity agreements with other states, 3) consider a new bay crossing and 4) participate in one of the nation's largest public private partnership toll road projects.

I ask for your favorable report.