**HEARING DATE**:        February 6, 2020

**BILL NO/TITLE:**        **SB319: Vehicle Laws – Move Over Safety Monitoring System – Authorization**

**COMMITTEE:**          Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

**POSITION:**            **Support with Amendments**

Maryland Motor Truck Association (MMTA) appreciates that Senate Bill 319 would add additional enforcement mechanisms when drivers fail to follow Maryland's "move over" law by either vacating an adjacent lane or slowing to a reasonable and prudent speed when approaching an emergency or police vehicle.  MMTA supports those efforts as the operation of these vehicles can place the drivers or other employees in a dangerous situation when they are stopped (e.g. along a shoulder).

However, the Association believes two clarifying amendments are needed to this legislation as follows:

**Amendment #1:**
For tractor-trailer combinations, violations based on a recorded image must be issued to the tractor owner and not to the trailer owner.  These are frequently two different companies.  For these combinations the responsible party for operation of the equipment is the owner of the tractor, which means the recorded image must be taken of the front of the vehicle to capture the tractor license plate.

**Amendment #2:**
On page 11, line 5, delete "26,001" and insert "10,001".  The definition of a commercial motor vehicle in both Maryland and federal l aw is 10,001 lbs. or more.  This change to 10,001 lbs. would maintain consistency with those definitions.


**About Maryland Motor Truck Association:**  Maryland Motor Truck Association is a not-for-profit trade association representing the trucking industry since 1935.  In service to its 1,000+ members, MMTA is committed to supporting and advocating for a safe, efficient and profitable trucking industry across all sectors and industry types, regardless of size, domicile or type of operation.

**For further information, contact**:  Louis Campion, (c) 443-623-4223