



MTBMA

MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION BUILDERS
AND MATERIALS ASSOCIATION

February 24th, 2021

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

Senator Delores G. Kelley, Chair
Finance Committee
3 East, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 843 – UNFAVORABLE – I-495 and I-270 Public-Private Partnership – Partnership Agreement – Requirements (Maryland Department of Transportation Promises Act of 2021)

Dear Members from the Budget and Taxation and Finance Committees:

The Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association (“MTBMA”) has been and continues to serve as the voice for Maryland’s construction transportation industry since 1932. Our association is comprised of 200 members. MTBMA encourages, develops, and protects the prestige of the transportation construction and materials industry in Maryland by establishing and maintaining respected relationships with federal, state, and local public officials.

SB 843 calls for a mandate on how funds generated from toll lanes on I-495 and I-270 will be allocated. The bill calls for 10% of toll revenue from these highways to be distributed to a special fund, and the money within that fund can only be used for transit projects that comply with memorandums of understanding between the Department of Transportation and the governing bodies of the counties where the toll facilities are located. This will ultimately grant counties more power than the State and lead to dependency on the State for funding. This will lead to additional provisions placed on an already well-coordinated and heavily regulated system. The needs of our State are critical, and we cannot afford to impose more constraints on a region that is struggling with massive deficiencies in its transportation infrastructure network.

We appreciate you taking the time to address this important issue and we urge an unfavorable report on Senate Bill 843.

Thank you,

Michael Sakata
President and CEO
Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association