

CHAIRMAN:
Brian Russell
VICE CHAIRMAN
Jeff Graf



SECRETARY:
Curtis Hall
TREASURER:
David Slaughter
PRESIDENT:
G. Marshall Klinefelter

February 26th, 2021

Delegate Kumar P. Barve, Chair
Environment and Transportation Committee
251 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 1207 – UNFAVORABLE – Environment – Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities – Reform

Dear Chairman Barve and Committee Members:

The Maryland Asphalt Association is comprised of 18 producer members representing more than 48 production facilities, 20 contractor members, 24 consulting engineer firms and 40 other associate members. Combined our members employ more than 4,000 Marylanders in our operations. We assist with the education of our workforce, sponsor safety activities and promote best practices while working diligently to produce the highest performing pavement materials with the lowest carbon footprint. We proactively work with regulatory agencies to represent the interests of the asphalt industry both in the writing and interpretation of state and federal regulations that may affect our members. We also advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland's multimodal transportation system.

While we appreciate the Sponsor's intent with this legislation, we must oppose HB 1207. This bill is onerous in its nature, presenting significant hurdles in the pursuit of solutions, which are already effectively being sought by the current Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities. At a time when we are facing an economic crisis and coping with various consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, we must focus our resources on the most pressing issues like our crumbling roads and highways, improving public transit options, and addressing economic disparities within Maryland. We believe it is paramount to address the problems at hand before they are inadvertently exacerbated by misguided and burdensome legislation, and it is for these reasons we ask you for an UNFAVORABLE report on House Bill 1207.

We thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marshall Klinefelter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Marshall" being more prominent than the last name "Klinefelter".

Marshall Klinefelter
President
Maryland Asphalt Association