

February 24th, 2021

Delegate Luke Clippinger, Chair Judiciary Committee 101 House Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: HB 855 – <u>FAVORABLE</u> – Criminal Law – Life-Threatening Injury Involving a Motor Vehicle or Vessel – Criminal Negligence (Wade's Law)

Dear Chairman Clippinger and Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

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.

We applaud the sponsor for introducing this important legislation. HB 855 establishes criminal negligence for causing a life-threatening injury by motor vehicle with a maximum penalty of 18 months imprisonment or a \$5,000 fine. The safety of our employees is something we fiercely advocate for and we hope this legislation will create enough of a deterrent for drivers to operate their vehicles safely, particularly in construction zones.

We appreciate you taking the time to address this important issue and we respectfully urge an **FAVORABLE** report on House Bill 855.

Thank you.

Michael Sakata President and CEO

Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association