



MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION



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

FAV W/AMD

January 14, 2021

RE: SB 152-FAV W/AMD- Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund – Use of Funds and Electric Vehicle Excise Tax Credits

Dear Chairman Kelley and Members of Senate Finance Committee:

The Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association (“MTBMA”) and the Maryland Asphalt Association (“MAA”) collectively represent tens of thousands of Marylanders who operate in the areas of transportation construction, production and engineering. Together, for nearly 100 years these organizations have served as the voice of the transportation construction industry. The mission of both MTBMA and MAA is to encourage, develop, and protect 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 proactively work with regulatory agencies and governing bodies to represent the interests of the transportation industry, and also advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland’s multimodal transportation system.

While we appreciate the foundations of SB 152 we would also suggest an amendment to this bill. Our industry supports the initiatives made by the sponsor to encourage the use of zero-emission vehicles and zero-emission vehicle infrastructure programs. However, at a time when our broader transportation industry is suffering greatly from the ravages of the reduction in funding from the gas tax proceeds, as well as the effects of COVID-19 we would suggest that any funding dedicated to this program not be taken from the Transportation Trust Fund. The needs of our members and our industry are great, and we as a State cannot afford to further reduce the inadequate resources we currently have. The transportation infrastructure across Maryland, which is the lifeblood of our economy, is critically underfunded and this bill would exacerbate those losses.

We thank you for your time and consideration of this bill and ask that if you pass SB 152 it is with the amendments we have advocated.

Sincerely,


Michael Sakata

President & CEO, MTBMA


Marshall Klinefelter

President, MAA