



Senator Paul G. Pinsky, Chair
Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION



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

February 17, 2021

RE: SB 361 – UNFAVORABLE – Public-Private Partnerships – Process and Oversight

Dear Chair Pinsky, Chair Guzzone, and Senate Committee Members:

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.

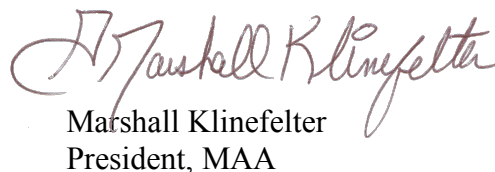
SB 361 would establish the Public-Private Partnership Oversight Review Board that would review P3 pre-solicitation reports and make recommendations regarding the designation of a public infrastructure asset as a P3. This bill is entirely redundant and unnecessary. The State already has an oversight review board that reviews P3 projects called the Board of Public Works (“BPW”). In fact, the three members who make up the BPW – the Governor, the Treasurer, and the Comptroller – would be required members of this P3 Oversight Review Board. We cannot understand why such a board is needed when the BPW already reviews all of the tasks listed in this bill. Enacting such legislation would only further delay necessary transportation projects in our State and undermine the process already in place.

We thank you for your time and consideration and ask for an UNFAVORABLE report on SB 361.

Sincerely,



Michael Sakata
President & CEO, MTBMA



Marshall Klinefelter
President, MAA