

March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021

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

RE: HB 1106 – <u>FAVORABLE</u> – Civil Actions – Immunity From Liability – COVID-19 Exposure

Dear Chairman Clippinger and Committee Members:

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 greatly appreciate the Sponsor's introduction of this legislation and ask for the Committee's support of HB 1106. As we navigate the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, businesses are facing unprecedented concerns of civil liability relating to virus exposure and transmission amongst the workplace. With ever-changing scientific information and evolving regulations enforced at the State, Federal, and local levels, business owners have done their best to remain in compliance at all times to ensure a safe environment. Despite these great efforts, entities are unable to control external factors regarding transmission of COVID-19, and have minimal leverage to ensure compliance by members of the public at their worksites. As we struggle to cope with the economic turmoil resulting from the pandemic, providing immunity to businesses simply doing their best is necessary for them to continue functioning, and it is for these reasons we ask for a <u>FAVORABLE</u> report on House Bill 1106.

We thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you,

Michael Sakata President and CEO

Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association