



MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION



February 3, 2021

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

**FAVORABLE**

Re: **HOUSE BILL 508 – COVID-19 CLAIM – CIVIL IMMUNITY**

Dear Chairman Clippinger and Members of the House Judiciary 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.

We would like to share our strong support for HB 508. As an industry, we have been working very hard to ensure the safety of our employees and clients. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, we will continue to abide by all of the rules and regulations that the State has put in place to protect our people. Our industry supports the initiatives that will help us safely get through this unprecedented time. However, sometimes the spread of this virus is inevitable, even when all of the guidelines are being properly followed. Because of this, we strongly urge you to pass HB 508. As we learn more about this virus and how it spreads, it would be unjust to hold companies liable for something outside of their knowledge or control. We will continue to listen to the health experts and government officials on how to best protect our communities, and we ask that you help us in protecting our industry from liability claims by supporting this bill.

We thank you for your time and consideration of this bill and ask you to pass HB 508.

Sincerely,

  
Michael Sakata  
President & CEO, MTBMA

  
Marshall Klinefelter  
President, MAA