

CHAIRMAN:
Brian Russell
VICE CHAIRMAN
Jeff Graf



SECRETARY:
Curtis Hall
TREASURER:
David Slaughter
PRESIDENT:
G. Marshall Klinefelter

February 25th, 2021

Delegate Anne Kaiser, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
131 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 1014 – FAVORABLE – Small Business COVID-19 Relief Act of 2021

Dear Chair Kaiser and Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

The Maryland Asphalt Association is comprised of 18 producer members representing more than 48 production facilities, 20 contractor members, 24 consulting engineer firms and 40 other associate members. Combined our members employ more than 4,000 Marylanders in our operations. We assist with the education of our workforce, sponsor safety activities and promote best practices while working diligently to produce the highest performing pavement materials with the lowest carbon footprint. We proactively work with regulatory agencies to represent the interests of the asphalt industry both in the writing and interpretation of state and federal regulations that may affect our members. We also advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland's multimodal transportation system.

HB 1014 would provide economic relief to so many businesses that are currently struggling to stay afloat during these trying times. In order to maintain a healthy network of small businesses in the State of Maryland, it is crucial that you pass this bill. The transportation industry is the lifeblood of our economy, but even we are struggling to keep up with the detrimental economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The needs of our members and industry are great, and this bill would help us address those needs in an efficient manner. We cannot stress enough the importance of this bill and the positive impact it would have on the citizens of Maryland. For these reasons, we urge you to support this legislation.

We thank you for your time and consideration and ask for a FAVORABLE report on HB 1014.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Marshall Klinefelter", written in dark ink.

Marshall Klinefelter
President
Maryland Asphalt Association