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BILL NO.: Senate Bill 658

TITLE: Transportation – Maryland Aviation Infrastructure Impacts

Commission

SPONSOR: Senator Lam

COMMITTEE: Finance

POSITION: SUPORRT

DATE: March 10, 2022

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 658 – Transportation – Maryland Aviation Infrastructure Impacts Commission. This legislation establishes the Maryland Aviation Infrastructure Impacts Commission to study the health and environmental impacts of commercial aviation in vulnerable communities in Maryland.

Public health officials have come to understand that health is more strongly influenced by zip code over genetic predisposition. Residents' environment can have drastic impacts on their health including increased risks of diseases such as cancer, heart disease and other life-threatening illnesses. This is especially true for communities that live by industries where products and waste may end up in the air, water and soil. It is crucial that governments hold the industries responsible accountable by closely monitoring the public health consequences of their practices.

SB 658 would establish a commission to study the impacts of commercial aviation on the health of neighboring communities and the environment. The Maryland Aviation Infrastructure Impacts Commission will make recommendations on how to mitigate the impacts on this industry on affected communities. This legislation will ensure that Marylanders understand their exposure to potential illness and reside safely in all parts of the State.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on SB 658. For more information, please contact Joel Beller, Acting Director of Government Affairs at jbeller@baltimorecountymd.gov.