

January 21st, 2022

Delegate C.T. Wilson, Chair Economic Matters Committee 231 House Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

## RE: HB 145 – <u>State Finance and Procurement – Prevailing Wage – Stop Work Orders - OPPOSE</u>

Dear Chair Wilson and Members of the Committee:

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.

While we appreciate the Sponsor's intent with this legislation, as we see value in upholding the State's prevailing wage law, we must oppose HB 145. This bill is onerous in its nature and has the potential to completely derail projects within our industry. The delays that would occur as a result of the bill would result in increased project costs. At a time when we are facing high inflation, high demand, worker shortages, and disrupted supply chains, in addition to continued consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, we simply cannot afford any more delays. Additionally, we have serious concerns that this legislation would apply to all allegations of violation, including those where an allegation did not occur.

It is for these reasons we ask you for an UNFAVORABLE report on House Bill 145. We thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you.

Michael Sakata President and CEO

Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association