



MARYLAND STATE & D.C. AFL-CIO

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HB 141 – Equity in Transportation Sector – Guidelines and Analyses House Environment and Transportation Committee January 27, 2022

SUPPORT

Donna S. Edwards

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Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO

Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 141 – Equity in Transportation Sector – Guidelines and Analyses (Transportation Equity Analyses and Assurances Act of 2021). My name is Donna S. Edwards, and I am the President of the Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO. On behalf of the 340,000 union members in the state of Maryland, I offer the following comments.

HB 141 starts us on the path of focusing on the existing inequities in our transportation system in Maryland, in order to address them honestly and openly. We must strive to make transportation universally accessible to all Marylanders, regardless of their circumstances. Unions support HB 141 and are pleased at the panoply of stakeholders included in the decision-making process. The people most affected by the legislation, and those who could offer real-world experience and expertise – the transportation workers - have a seat at the table. It is vital that both the advisory committee and the Commission on Transportation Equity receives “on the ground” input from those who have intimate knowledge of Maryland’s transportation system.

We urge a favorable report on HB 141