



One Park Place | Suite 475 | Annapolis, MD 21401-3475
1-866-542-8163 | Fax: 410-837-0269
aarp.org/md | md@aarp.org | twitter: @aarpm
facebook.com/aarpm

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

Good Afternoon Chairman Barve and Members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee. I am Martha Yalov, a lead advocacy volunteer for AARP MD. As you know, AARP Maryland is one of the largest membership-based organizations in Maryland, encompassing over 850,000 members. **AARP MD supports HB 141 Equity in Transportation Sector – Guidelines and Analyses** with the amendments Delegate Ruth is offering to the committee. We thank Delegate Ruth for introducing this important legislation and for working with us to amend the bill to include “Older Marylanders.”

HB 141 requires that equity be considered when State transportation plans, reports, and goals are developed. It alters the membership of the advisory committee on State transportation goals and establishes the Commission on Transportation Equity to assist in developing policies and performance measures to ensure the State transportation system is equitable.

Transportation planning is the collaborative process of determining how to move people and goods. Successful transportation planning leads to more effective, efficient, and equitable transportation systems. It also contributes to community revitalization and equitable economic and social outcomes.

AARP MD believes that state policy should adopt plans that enhance the mobility of older adults and people with disabilities. AARP also believes meaningful public input and participation must be incorporated into transportation planning decisions. This includes input from older adults, people with disabilities, and communities of color. In addition, ensuring that there are transportation options for older Marylanders is a 2022 legislative priority for AARP Maryland. Transportation options allow access to key services and opportunities for all residents to participate in community activities. It is well-known that barriers to mobility frequently become limiting factors for older citizens. Transportation planning must address the needs of all citizens, including this growing age demographic.

AARP Maryland respectfully requests that the House Environment and Transportation Committee give a **favorable report to HB 141**. Thanks very much for your time and consideration. If you have questions, please contact Tammy Bresnahan tbresnahan@aarp.org or by calling 410-302-8451