

Larry Hogan Governor Boyd K. Rutherford Lt. Governor

James F. Ports, Jr. Secretary

February 17, 2022

The Honorable Kumar Barve Chairman, House Environment and Transportation Committee 251 House Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Letter of Information – House Bill 546 – Pedestrians – Kent Island Drawbridge – Fishing Prohibition

Dear Chairman Barve and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) takes no position on House Bill 546 but offers the following information for the Committee's consideration.

House Bill 546 would prohibit pedestrians from catching, or attempting to catch fish, from on or under the Maryland Route 18 drawbridge of Kent Narrows in Queen Anne's County.

The MDOT State Highway Administration's (MDOT SHA) number one priority is safety. Prohibiting fishing on the Maryland Route 18 drawbridge will address pedestrian safety concerns. Efforts to inform the public about a fishing restriction along a State-owned bridge through posting signs will be evaluated and installed accordingly.

The Maryland Department of Transportation respectfully requests the Committee consider this information when deliberating House Bill 546.

Respectfully submitted,

Pilar Helm Director of Government Affairs Maryland Department of Transportation 410-865-1090