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March 3, 2022

Delegate Kumar P. Barve, Chair
House Environment and Transportation Committee
Room 251, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 1150 – FAVORABLE – Vehicle Equipment – Highway Maintenance and Service – Green Flashing Lights

Dear Chairman Barve and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:

The Maryland Asphalt Association (MAA) is comprised of 18 producer members representing more than 47 production facilities, 24 contractor members, 24 consulting engineer firms and 41 other associate members. We proactively work with regulatory agencies to represent the interests of the asphalt industry both in the writing and interpretation of state and federal regulations that may affect our members. We also advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland's multimodal transportation system.

HB 1150 would authorize highway maintenance and service equipment vehicles to be equipped with and display green flashing lights while in use for snow removal or the protection of highway maintenance workers.

MAA strongly supports this legislation as it will increase worker safety as well as motorist and pedestrian safety on the roads in Maryland. Bright green flashing lights have proven to be very successful in other states in alerting drivers and pedestrians of maintenance being performed. They offer a higher degree of contrast and are better seen by the human eye than yellow or amber colored lights. Our employees put their lives at risk every day and we as a State need to do everything within our power to protect them as they work on our roadways.

We appreciate you taking the time to address this important issue, and we urge a favorable report on House Bill 1150.

Thank you,

Marshall Klinefelter
President
Maryland Asphalt Association