



MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE LATINO CAUCUS

Lowe House Office Building, 6 Bladen Street, Room 200 · Annapolis, Maryland 21401
Phone 410-841-3374 | 301-858-3374 · 800-492-7122 Ext. 3374 · Fax 410-841-3342 | 301-858-3342
latino.caucus@house.state.md.us · www.mdlatinocaucus.org

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TO: Delegate Kumar P. Barve, Chair
Delegate Dana Stein, Vice Chair
Environment and Transportation Committee Members
FROM: Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus (MLLC)
DATE: February 2, 2022
RE: HB0141 Equity in Transportation Sector - Guidelines and Analyses

The MLLC supports HB0141 Equity in Transportation Sector - Guidelines and Analyses

The MLLC is a bipartisan group of Senators and Delegates committed to supporting legislation that improves the lives of Latinos throughout our state. The MLLC is a crucial voice in the development of public policy that uplifts the Latino community and benefits the state of Maryland. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to express our support of HB1041.

Maryland's history of inequitable transportation policies (e.g. the cancellation of the Red Line and the I-495/I-270 widening plan) desperately needs addressing. Ongoing [systematic reviews](#) have shown that transportation is an important social determinant of health. Transportation barriers disproportionately affect the most vulnerable groups of society who carry the highest burden of chronic diseases; therefore, it is critical to identify interventions that improve access to transportation.

This bill will require the Department of Transportation, in collaboration with the Maryland Transit Administration, to set up a commission on transportation equity. The commission will evaluate measurable transportation indicators and identify any racial and ethnic disparities and impacts on persons with disabilities with a focus on predicting and avoiding rather than fixing problems and a holistic multimodal approach to decision-making.

For these reasons, the Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus respectfully requests a favorable report on HB0141. Thank you for the opportunity to express our support