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MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION



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February 15, 2022

Delegate Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair
Health and Government Operations Committee
241 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: House Bill 451 – FAVORABLE – State Finance and Procurement – Grants – Prompt Payment Requirement

Dear Chair Pendergrass and Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Asphalt Association 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.

House Bill 451 would require the State to make payment under a grant agreement within 30 days after payment is due under the grant agreement or the day an invoice is received, after which interest shall accrue. In a similar vein to other pieces of legislation this year that aim to correct a longstanding problem with prompt payments, we applaud the sponsor for this bill. Our members struggle with this frequently in our industry and hope codifying a more expedient payment schedule will ensure contractors are paid on time.

We appreciate you taking the time to address this issue and we respectfully urge a favorable report on House Bill 451.

Thank you,

Marshall Klinefelter
President
Maryland Asphalt Association