



**TESTIMONY FOR HB1052**  
**Transportation – Consolidated Transportation Program – Scoring**

**Bill Sponsor:** Delegate Ruth

**Committee:** Appropriations

**Organization Submitting:** Maryland Legislative Coalition

**Person Submitting:** Cecilia Plante, co-chair

**Position:** FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in strong support of HB1052 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

How in the world did former Governor Hogan's 270/495 project receive a perfect score on the model that is used to score transportation projects? We all know how much of a disaster it would have been in terms of the environmental impact it would have (more cars on the road with more exhaust, more runoff issues), as well as the impact to communities (more pollution and noise) and equity (tolls would be unaffordable for most Marylanders). Many factors were obviously ignored or glossed over.

This bill attempts to modernize the criteria used in the model to ensure that all the factors are taken into account, including the impact on the environment, on underserved/overburdened communities, transportation equity. These are all important considerations that should have been included in the initial scoring for many previous projects. It's about time we looked at transportation from a more holistic point of view. Perhaps we wouldn't be embarrassed by having one of the worst transportation systems in the country.

We strongly support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.