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MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION



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March 7, 2023

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

Delegate Ben Barnes, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Room 121 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: House Bill 1201 – UNFAVORABLE – Public-Private Partnerships

Dear Chairs Barve and Barnes and Members of the Committees:

The Maryland Asphalt Association (MAA) is comprised of 19 producer members representing more than 48 production facilities, 25 contractor members, 25 consulting engineer firms and 41 other associate members. MAA works proactively 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 1201 would establish the Public-Private Partnership (P3) Oversight Review Board that would review P3 pre-solicitation reports and make recommendations regarding the designation of a public infrastructure asset as a P3. This bill is entirely redundant and unnecessary. The State already has an oversight review board that reviews P3 projects called the Board of Public Works ("BPW"). We cannot understand why such a board is needed when the BPW already reviews all of the tasks listed in this bill. Enacting such legislation would only further delay necessary transportation projects in our State and undermine the processes already in place.

We appreciate you taking the time to address this important issue and we respectfully urge an unfavorable report on House Bill 1201.

Sincerely,

Marshall Klinefelter
President
Maryland Asphalt Association