

Vote FOR HB 1201

To the Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee and Appropriations Committee

As a Maryland resident interested in fiscal responsibility, efficiency and transparency, I urge you to vote for HB 1201. Early on, Public Private Partnership (PPP) Agreements provided mutual benefits to both government and business interests, but over time businesses have learned how to “game” the system in order to be assured of their maximum profit and minimum risks, and as a result, the clear process outlined in HB 1201 is required at this time.

HB 1201 is designed to assure Maryland taxpayers of fiscal responsibility, risk management, and a clear, transparent process. For example, it requires a Risk Analysis for each project that includes, “assessment of the risks to the state posed by the proposed agreement, including economic, legal and technological risks.”

To assure broad representation and qualified analysis, HB 1201 establishes a **Public-Private Partnership Oversight Review Board** consisting of two members of the Senate of Maryland, two members of the House of Delegates and three skilled members (e.g., with experience in transportation law, public policy, finance, or management consulting).

To assure a consistent process HB 1201 specifies clear procedures for reviewing transportation facility projects, including separate pre-solicitation reports for each phase of the project, calculating the total value of the PPP Agreement to be equal to the sum of total value of each phase of the project.

HB 1201 assures temporal efficiency by specifying time limits based on the cost of the transportation project, e.g., up to 45 days to review a pre-solicitation report for projects up to \$500M (60 days for projects greater than \$500M). In addition there are specific time limits for review and comments.

In conclusion, HB 1201 acts to assure fiscal responsibility, risk reduction, and temporal efficiency for the state of Maryland participating in PPP Agreements. Over time the private businesses have learned to game the system to achieve maximum profit and minimum risk, so it is time our state assure fiscal responsibility and well managed risk when agreeing to a PPP. I highly recommend your support of HB 1201.

Respectfully,

Donna Gentry
13 James Spring Ct
Rockville, MD 20850
240-506-1529