



March 1, 2023

Delegate Pena-Melnyk Chair
Health and Government Operations Committee
Room 241 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: House Bill 949 – FAVORABLE – State Finance and Procurement – Retention Proceeds

Dear Chair Pena-Melnyk and Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association (MTBMA) has been and continues to serve as the voice for Maryland's construction transportation industry since 1932. Our association is comprised of 200 members. MTBMA encourages, develops, and protects the prestige of the transportation construction and materials industry in Maryland by establishing and maintaining respected relationships with federal, state, and local public officials. We proactively work with regulatory agencies and governing bodies to represent the interests of the transportation industry and advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland's multimodal transportation system.

This bill would greatly benefit our industry by providing a reliable and secure process of payment for our members, allowing us to more effectively serve the State of Maryland. Under current law, our contractors and subcontractors often take on burdensome costs that are harmful to their functioning as a business, and adding the economic effects of COVID-19 on top of that has created a difficult environment to operate and flourish in. By offering timely assurance of payments to our contractors and subcontractors, we are better able to support our State's countless construction and transportation projects that are essential to our infrastructure network as a whole.

We appreciate you taking the time to consider our request for a FAVORABLE report on House Bill 949.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Sakata", is written over a light blue circular stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Michael Sakata
President and CEO
Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association