

CHAIRMAN:  
Jeff Graf  
VICE CHAIRMAN  
David Slaughter



TREASURER:  
Paul Bramble  
SECRETARY:  
Curtis Hall  
PRESIDENT:  
Tim Smith

March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Delegate C.T. Wilson, Chair  
House Economic Matters Committee  
231 House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: HB 1272 – Letter of Inquiry – Department of the Environment – Cap-and-Invest Program – Establishment**

Dear Chair Wilson and Members of the Committee:

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.

House Bill 1272 requires the Maryland Department of the Environment to develop an economy wide cap-and-invest program that reduces climate-altering emissions in Maryland. The program must be designed to achieve necessary climate pollution reductions, address energy affordability and environmental justice, and establish protocols for participation in multistate or regional cap-and-invest programs.

MAA submits this letter of inquiry to request clarification about the nature of the cap-and-invest program. The bill text is unclear, and does not fully explain the provisions of its development and implementation or how it will be funded. We look forward to gaining a better understanding of HB 1272.

Sincerely,



Tim Smith P.E.  
President  
Maryland Asphalt Association