



House Bill 1133

Public Utilities - Transportation Network Service - Assessment Cap Increase

MACo Position: **SUPPORT**

To: Economic Matters Committee

Date: February 29, 2024

From: Kevin Kinnally and Michael Sanderson

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) **SUPPORTS** HB 1133. This bill increases the statutory limit on the per-trip assessment that local governments may impose on specified ride-sharing services from 25 cents to 50 cents.

Currently, several local governments impose a per-trip assessment on ride-sharing services. Assessment revenues fund local priorities across all modes of transportation, including working with nonprofits that provide transportation and delivery services to individuals who are disabled, seniors, and residents with limited incomes. These revenues also help counties offer resources to help mitigate the unfair advantage ride-sharing service providers enjoy at the expense of local taxicab operators.

Generally, a county or municipality that licensed or regulated taxicab services on or before January 1, 2015, either directly or through the Public Service Commission, may impose assessments on trips that originate within their jurisdictions. Except for an exempt jurisdiction (in practice, Baltimore City), an assessment may be up to 25 cents per trip. The revenue generated from the assessments must be used for transportation purposes.

A transportation network company (companies like Uber and Lyft) must collect and remit the funds to the Comptroller within 30 days after each quarter. After allocating up to 5% for administrative expenses, the Comptroller must distribute the assessment revenue to the appropriate local jurisdictions.

HB 1133 aims to increase funding for local transportation goals and priorities. Accordingly, MACo urges the Committee to issue a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 1133.