

CHAIRMAN:  
Jeff Graf  
VICE CHAIRMAN  
David Slaughter

**MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION**



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

February 22, 2024

Delegate Marc Korman, Chair  
House Environment and Transportation Committee  
251 House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: HB 781 – UNFAVORABLE – Transportation – State Highways – Rubber Modified Asphalt**

Dear Chair Korman 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 781 requires the State Highway Administration (SHA) to use rubber modified asphalt in the construction, reconstruction and repair of all state highways. SHA shall consider the use of various types of rubber modified asphalt while planning, including those produced by the wet process and the dry process.

Respectfully, MAA must oppose this legislation. Our Association has always and continues to maintain a position that legislatively mandated engineering and material selection decisions are improper and those decisions must be left up to the experts to decide. Instead, we recommend allowing SHA, the asphalt industry, and material suppliers to partner together to arrive at a solution that helps the environment without sacrificing performance. This bill limits future opportunities to introduce other environmentally beneficial materials as well as gain improved efficiency with our plant energy consumption.

We appreciate you taking the time to consider our request for an **UNFAVORABLE** report on House Bill 781.

Sincerely,

Tim E. Smith, P.E.  
President  
Maryland Asphalt Association