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MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION



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February 8, 2024

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

RE: HB 344 – FAVORABLE – Vision Zero Advisory Commission – Establishment

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 344 establishes the Vision Zero Advisory Commission, which is aimed at developing strategies to enhance road safety, with the ultimate goal of eliminating all vehicle-related deaths by 2030. The Vision Zero Advisory Commission will be responsible for advising the Maryland Department of Transportation on the proper implementation of Vision Zero, as well as providing annual reports with its status, findings, and recommendations.

MAA steadfastly supports this legislation as a course of action to enhance road safety. The Vision Zero Advisory Commission reflects a proactive and comprehensive approach to address the challenges associated with traffic-related incidents, and will ultimately assist in realizing Vision Zero by 2030. As consistently engaged advocates of road safety, the Maryland Asphalt Association respectfully requests to be included as a member of the Commission.

We appreciate you taking the time to consider our request for a **FAVORABLE** report on House Bill 344.

Sincerely,

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