

February 22, 2024

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

RE: HB 774 – <u>FAVORABLE</u> – Motor Vehicles – Certificate of Title Fees – Zero-Emission Plug-In Electric Drive Vehicles

Dear Chair Korman 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.

House Bill 774 adds a fee of \$200 for zero-emission plug-in electric drive vehicles. For many years, MTBMA has argued that electric vehicles don't pay their fair share in Maryland—by not paying motor fuel tax, which assists with funding and maintaining our roads, but still using those roads putting significant wear and tear on them. This places a significant burden on our crumbling infrastructure. We desperately need an influx of revenue into the Transportation Trust Fund to ensure safe and reliable roads in Maryland. We appreciate the sponsors introducing this legislation to finally create fairness amongst all vehicle users in Maryland, while providing that additional funding we need. Moreover, it reflects one of the recommendations given by the Maryland Commission on Transportation Revenue and Infrastructure Needs, of which we are a member of, which aims to seek additional revenue options for transportation projects.

We appreciate you taking the time to consider our request for a **FAVORABLE** report on House Bill 774.

Thank you,

Michael Sakata

President and CEO

Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association