



The Honorable Marc Korman
Chair, House Environment and Transportation Committee
House Office Building, Room 250
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

March 1, 2024

HOUSE BILL 990 – ENVIRONMENT – GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS –
MANUFACTURERS
TESTIMONY FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS

Chair Korman and Members of the Committee:

For over 45 years Maryland Ready Mix Concrete Association, Inc. (MRMCA) has been the voice for the Maryland ready mix industry. MRMCA is a resource for local, state, and national legislative affairs. MRMCA provides concrete education, training, and certifications. MRMCA advocates for its members by working with the State on specifications, technical issues, and environmental matters.

Regarding House Bill 990, MRMCA joins its members in seeking a favorable report with amendments. In recent years, MRMCA and its members have taken substantial steps to improve their environmental footprint in Maryland, including reducing emissions in the manufacturing process and promoting the use of durable, sustainable materials to ensure that Maryland’s infrastructure is efficient and consistent with the State’s energy efficiency and usage goals.

The cement and concrete industry is committed to working with the General Assembly and the Administration to implement appropriate emission controls on the manufacturing process and are already doing so as part of the State’s Buy Green procurement process enacted in 2023. However, the bill as drafted would impose disproportionate obligations on a single sector of Maryland’s manufacturing industry and do so in a manner that creates significant uncertainty in how emission reduction requirements would be implemented and applied in the future. Additionally, HB990, as introduced, singles out one specific type of manufacturing, creating a competitive disadvantage for the targeted materials. MRMCA is committed to meeting the State’s emission goals, but suggests that broader approach to implement similar standards across the full manufacturing sector would be more appropriate.

MRMCA welcomes the opportunity to work with the bill sponsor and the Committee to include instructive language in HB990 that would specify the consideration of certain financial and technological realities facing Maryland’s cement and concrete manufacturing industry, including access to sufficient renewable energy sources, competition from other states and international manufacturers, and the availability and affordability of emission-reduction technology. Thank you for your consideration of our position and we urge the Committee’s consideration of clarifying amendments on House Bill 990.