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MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION



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March 5th, 2024

Senator Pam Beidle, Chair
Senate Finance Committee
3 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 845 – UNFAVORABLE – Workers’ Compensation – Temporary Partial Disability – Concurrent Employment

Dear Chair Beidle 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.

Senate Bill 845 proposes changes to workers’ compensation laws regarding temporary partial disability benefits for workers with concurrent employment. It requires employers to compensate workers if they are temporarily disabled from their primary job but can still work at a concurrent job, at a higher rate.

MAA opposes this legislation because it poses significant challenges and burdens for employers in our industry. The requirement to pay compensation for temporarily disabled workers with concurrent employment places undue financial strain on employers, notably smaller operations grappling with increased costs. The eligibility criteria outlined in the bill are vague and open to interpretation, leading to potential inconsistencies and disputes in determining who qualifies for compensation. This ambiguity creates uncertainty for employers and could result in increased administrative burdens and expenses associated with claims processing and dispute resolution.

We appreciate you taking the time to consider our request for an **UNFAVORABLE** report on Senate Bill 845.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tim Smith, P.E.
President
Maryland Asphalt Association