

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING Maryland Board for Professional Land Surveyors 1100 N. Eutaw Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Baltimore, MD 21201

## **SENATE BILL 344**

Date: January 29, 2024

**Committee:** Judicial Proceedings

Bill Title: Criminal and Civil Trespass - Professional Land Surveyors – Exception (Crossed-filled HB0382)

Re: Letter of Support

On Behalf of the Maryland Board for Professional Land Surveyors (the Board). Senate Bill 344 safeguards professional land surveyors and agents and employees of professional land surveyors, who enter the property of another while conducting official duties of land surveying.

Professional land surveyors frequently need to access bordering properties beyond the parties who contracted them for professional services. Senate Bill 344 seeks to establish exceptions to certain criminal prohibitions against trespassing on property and civil tort on trespass for and generally relating to professional land surveying.

Land surveying is a regulated profession in Maryland. These licensed professionals abide by a code of ethics which includes a responsibility to the public, COMAR Sec. 09.13.01.02. In performing their professional duties, each licensee makes every reasonable effort to protect the safety, health, property, and welfare of the public. Land surveyors are an integral aspect of the design and construction industries in Maryland. The Board respectfully requests a favorable report from the committee. Members of the Board are prepared to answer any questions the committee may have about SB 344.

Respectfully,

John C. Dove Commissioner

Occupational and Professional Licensing

Zevi Thomas

**Executive Director** 

Maryland Board for Professional Land Surveyors