



February 14, 2024

Senator Will Smith, Chair
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 344 – FAVORABLE – Criminal and Civil Trespass – Professional Land Surveyors – Exception

Dear Chair Smith 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 Maryland's transportation construction and materials industry 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.

Senate Bill 344 establishes exceptions to trespassing laws for professional land surveyors and their agents or employees when they enter someone else’s property to conduct land surveying. The exceptions outlined in SB3 44 do not affect other legal protections or rights individuals have, and do not prevent anyone from seeking legal recourse for other actionable behavior by land surveyors.

MTBMA supports this legislation, as the processes outlined in the bill are an integral part of our State’s real estate development, and land surveyors play a crucial role in ensuring accurate boundary determinations and protecting property rights. SB 344 expands on the provisions outlined in Maryland’s Right of Entry to better facilitate the work of surveyors while also addressing potential conflicts and legal concerns. This exemption is narrowly tailored to apply only when surveyors are actively engaged in surveying services, it does not grant blanket permission to enter any building and retains surveyors’ liability. This bill is crucial to support the vital work of professional land surveyors in Maryland.

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

Thank you,

Michael Sakata
President and CEO
Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association