

January 24, 2024

Delegate Luke Clippinger, Chair House Judiciary Committee 101 House Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 207 – <u>FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS</u> – Motor Vehicles – Reckless Driving and Aggressive Driving – Penalties

Dear Chair Clippinger 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 207 would revise the penalties for reckless and aggressive driving, adding imprisonment up to thirty days for a first violation and a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or imprisonment up to 90 days for subsequent offenses.

MTBMA fully supports legislation directed at increasing road safety, but respectfully requests an amendment to be added to House Bill 207 that includes "increasing penalties for speeding in a work zone." This amendment will align with the Moore Administration's established priority to improve work zone safety in Maryland. In light of recent tragic events, such as the devastating accident on I-695 that claimed the lives of six construction workers, taking concrete measures to ensure work zone safety is critical.

We appreciate you taking the time to consider our request on House Bill 207.

Thank you,

Michael Sakata

President and CEO

Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association