

The Voice of Merit Construction

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Mike Henderson

President Greater Baltimore Chapter mhenderson@abcbaltimore.org

Chris Garvey

President & CEO Chesapeake Shores Chapter cgarvey@abc-chesapeake.org

Dan Bond CAE

President & CEO Metro Washington Chapter dbond@abcmetrowashington.org

Amos McCoy

President & CEO
Cumberland Valley Chapter
amos@abccvc.com

Tricia Baldwin

Chairman Joint Legislative Committee tbaldwin@reliablecontracting.com

Marcus Jackson

Director of Government Affairs Metro Washington Chapter mjackson@abcmetrowashington.org

Martin "MJ" Kraska Government Affairs Director Chesapeake Shores Chapter mkraska @abc-chesapeake.org

Additional representation by: Harris Jones & Malone, LLC

6901 Muirkirk Meadows Drive Suite F Beltsville, MD 20705 (T) (301) 595-9711 (F) (301) 595-9718 TO: APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORATION COMMITTEE

FROM: ASSOCIATED BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS

RE: H.B. 20 – TRANSPORATION – CONSOLIDATED

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM – PRIORITIZATION

(TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT PRIORITIES ACT OF 2025

POSITION: OPPOSE

The Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) opposes H.B. 20 which is before you today for consideration. We believe that this legislation presents several significant concerns.

The bill introduces overly complex and burdensome requirements for the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT). The mandated advisory committee, project-based scoring system, and complex solicitation process will create significant administrative hurdles, delaying critical transportation projects and diverting resources from actual construction and maintenance.

The rigidity of the proposed scoring system and prioritization process could limit MDOT's ability to respond effectively to unforeseen circumstances, such as natural disasters, economic downturns, or rapid population growth. Flexibility is crucial for ensuring that transportation investments remain responsive to the evolving needs of the state.

The bill's focus on a statewide scoring system does not explicitly address equity considerations. It is unclear how this system will ensure that transportation investments are fairly distributed across all regions of the state, particularly underserved communities. The bill's focus on a statewide scoring system does not explicitly address equity considerations. It is unclear how this system will ensure that transportation investments are fairly distributed across all regions of the state, particularly underserved communities.

On behalf of the over 1,500 ABC members in Maryland, thank you for your time and consideration of these concerns. We respectfully request that you oppose H.B. 198.

Marcus Jackson, Director of Government Affairs