



## **TESTIMONY FOR SB0020**

### **Locally Operated Transit Systems – Mandatory Funding -Inflation Adjustment (Local Transit Sustainability Act)**

**Bill Sponsor:** Senator McCray

**Committee:** Budget and Taxation

**Organization Submitting:** Maryland Legislative Coalition

**Person Submitting:** Cecilia Plante, co-chair

**Position:** FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in strong support of SB0020 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

This bill provides a new formula to calculate the amount to fund local transit systems in the state. In previous years, a flat amount was required to be included in the annual state budget to fund local transit systems. The new formula would adjust for inflation by using the lower of the percentage of growth in the Consumer Price Index or 5%, rather than specifying a flat amount.

Our members believe that this is a more equitable way to provide funding for future years. We support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.