



The Voice of Merit Construction

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TO: BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

FROM: ASSOCIATED BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS

RE: S.B. 198 – TRANSPORTATION – CONSOLIDATED
TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM – PRIORITIZATION
(TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT PRIORITIES ACT OF 2025)

POSITION: OPPOSE

The Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) opposes S.B. 198 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 SB 198.

Marcus Jackson, Director of
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