



MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE LATINO CAUCUS

Lowe House Office Building, 6 Bladen Street, Room 200 · Annapolis, Maryland 21401
Phone 410-841-3374 | 301-858-3374 · 800-492-7122 Ext. 3374 · Fax 410-841-3342 | 301-858-3342
latino.caucus@house.state.md.us · www.mdlatinocaucus.org

ASHANTI MARTINEZ, CHAIR

GABRIEL ACEVERO, VICE-CHAIR

DENI TAVERAS, TREASURER

JOE VOGEL, SECRETARY

JASON A. AVILA GARCIA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TO: Delegate Marc Korman, Chair
Delegate Regina T. Boyce, Vice Chair
Environment and Transportation Committee Members
FROM: Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus
DATE: February 27, 2025
RE: HB1370 – Transportation – Regional Transportation Authorities

The MLLC supports HB1370 – Transportation – Regional Transportation Authorities

The MLLC is a bipartisan group of Senators and Delegates committed to supporting legislation that improves the lives of Latinos throughout our state. The MLLC is a crucial voice in the development of public policy that uplifts the Latino community and benefits the state of Maryland. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to express our support of HB1370.

This bill directly impacts transportation equity and accessibility, which are important issues for many Latino communities. It establishes regional transportation authorities for the Baltimore Region, Capital Region, and Southern Maryland Region to address congestion and implement transportation improvements. These authorities will oversee regional transportation planning, recommend funding allocations, and advocate for infrastructure improvements. Each region will have a dedicated congestion relief fund to finance transportation projects, ensuring sustainable development. The bill also mandates a study on the feasibility of local-option transportation revenues to support these initiatives. By creating a structured framework for regional oversight, this legislation aims to improve mobility, reduce traffic congestion, and enhance transportation infrastructure across Maryland.

Reliable public transportation and congestion relief initiatives help ensure that Latino workers, families, and students can access jobs, schools, healthcare, and other essential services without unnecessary delays or financial burdens. Among urban residents, 27% of Latinos rely on public transit daily or weekly, compared to 14% of non-Latino Whites.¹ Improving regional transportation infrastructure will help address disparities in mobility and economic opportunity. Additionally, the bill's focus on funding regional projects through dedicated congestion relief funds ensures that underserved communities, which often experience inadequate transportation options, are prioritized.

For these reasons, the Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus respectfully requests a favorable report on HB1370.

¹ Anderson, M. (2016). Who relies on public transit in the U.S. in Numbers, Facts, and Trends Shaping Your World
Pew Research Center.