



February 20, 2025

Senator Pamela Beidle, Chair
Finance Committee
3 East, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: SB 754 – FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS – Commercial Financing - Small Business
Truth in Lending Act**

Dear Chair Beidle 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 230 members. MTBMA encourages, develops, and protects the prestige of Maryland's transportation construction and materials industry 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.

MTBMA respectfully requests that SB 754 be amended to exclude asset-based equipment lease transactions and financing extended by captive finance companies.

MTBMA represents a diverse coalition of businesses across the transportation, construction, and materials sectors—industries that rely on timely and affordable access to equipment to support essential infrastructure work in Maryland. SB 754’s current scope is overly broad and includes transactions that have been exempted in similar legislation in other states.

Asset-based equipment lease transactions are already heavily regulated, and financing provided by equipment manufacturers—such as those represented by MTBMA—supports both businesses and state and local governments. Adding further regulation would increase operational costs without offering meaningful consumer protections. Additionally, the Truth in Lending Act creates contradictions that place unnecessary pressure on manufacturers and create further barriers for small businesses, especially in the transportation sector, where companies often rely on just 1-3 machines to carry out critical work.

We appreciate you taking the time to consider our amendments on Senate Bill 754. Thank you.

Michael Sakata
President and CEO
Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association