



**SB 674**  
**Transportation – Regional Transportation Authorities**


**COMMITTEE:** Budget & Taxation, Finance  
**POSITION:** Oppose

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County **OPPOSE SB 674 – Transportation - Regional Transportation Authorities**. This legislation creates several regional transportation authorities, including a Southern Maryland Region Transportation Authority. The particular model for transportation planning proposed by this legislation raises concerns about governance, the relationship between any future regional transportation authorities and existing metropolitan planning organizations, and fiscal accountability.

Local governments own an overwhelming majority of Maryland's roadways, but local governments' representation in the proposed Southern Maryland Region authority's governing body is significantly diluted. Many of the proposed functions and responsibilities of the proposed regional transportation authorities appear duplicative of functions served by existing metropolitan planning organizations. While regional collaboration is essential to meeting cross-county transportation needs, abandoning existing collaborative tools that ensure counties have a fair place at the table is not conducive to improving local and regional outcomes.

We respectfully request the committee report **UNFAVORABLE** on SB 674. Thank you for your consideration of this matter, and thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Sincerely,  
COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY

  
James Randy Guy, President

CSMC/AB/tr  
T:/Consent/2026/021

Cc: Senator Jack Bailey  
Delegate Matthew Morgan  
Delegate Brian Crosby  
Commissioner Mike Alderson, Jr.  
Commissioner Eric Colvin  
Commissioner Michael Hewitt  
Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow  
David Weiskopf, County Administrator

David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator  
Buffy Giddens, County Attorney  
John Sterling Houser, Deputy County Attorney