



February 25, 2026

Senator Brian Feldman, Chair  
Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee  
2 West Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: SB 590 – UNFAVORABLE – Study on Greenhouse Gas Emissions Economy-Wide Cap-and-Invest Program (Maryland Climate Crisis Equity Act)**

Dear Chair Feldman and Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Asphalt Association (MAA) represents approximately 110+ members, including 20 material producers, contractors, engineering firms, and associate members, supporting a 7,000-person workforce. MAA actively collaborates with regulatory agencies to advocate for the asphalt industry, ensuring fair regulations at both the state and federal levels. Additionally, we support adequate funding for Maryland's multimodal transportation system.

MAA respectfully opposes SB 590. While addressing greenhouse gas emissions is an important policy goal, this bill would direct multiple state agencies to undertake a comprehensive study on implementing an economy-wide cap-and-invest program that could fundamentally alter Maryland's regulatory and economic landscape. Such a study is premature and could lead to regulatory uncertainty for the asphalt and transportation construction industry, which is heavily regulated and already adapting to existing environmental requirements.

A broad, economy-wide cap-and-invest program could result in significant compliance costs and unintended impacts on infrastructure, transportation costs, and jobs in Maryland if implemented. Mandating a state-sponsored study without clear guardrails or industry engagement requirements risks diverting resources from current priorities such as maintaining transportation infrastructure and ensuring economic stability for local businesses. Additional, costly analyses should only move forward once there is clear legislative direction and stakeholder consensus.

For these reasons, the Maryland Asphalt Association urges the committee to **give SB 590 an unfavorable report**.

Sincerely,

Tim E. Smith, P.E.  
President  
Maryland Asphalt Association