



Delegate Melissa Wells, Chair
Government, Labor, and Elections Committee
145 Lowe House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

March 4, 2026

RE: HB 1216 – UNFAVORABLE – Insurance – Certificates of Guarantee for County Bond Requirements – All Counties

Dear Chair Wells 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 250 members. MTBMA encourages, develops, and protects the prestige of the transportation construction and materials industry in Maryland 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.

House Bill 1216 would authorize all counties in Maryland to honor certificates of guarantee issued by nonprofit associations of contractors or their approved subsidiaries in order to satisfy county bond requirements for public improvements or other county obligations. Under the bill, a county may choose to honor these certificates but is not required to do so. The legislation expands the current law, which only applies to certain specified counties, to allow any county the option to accept these instruments as an alternative to traditional bonds.

MTBMA opposes HB 1216 because the bill introduces additional administrative processes and uncertainty for contractors and counties. By creating optional layers of approval across all counties, the bill could slow project timelines, increase paperwork, and create inconsistent application of bond requirements. This added red tape may hinder efficient project delivery without providing measurable benefits to either contractors or local governments. For these reasons, MTBMA urges an unfavorable report on HB 1216.

Thank you,

Michael Sakata
President and CEO
Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association