



**CALVERT COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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Board of Commissioners
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February 11, 2025

Via Electronic Mail

Calvert County Senators and Delegation

Re: HB20 - Transportation – Consolidated Transportation Program – Prioritization (Transportation Investment Priorities Act of 2025)

Senators and Delegation,

We write regarding concerns of the application of this draft legislation to rural areas, including Calvert County. This draft legislation proposes significant changes to Maryland’s transportation planning and funding. A new project-based scoring system would evaluate major surface transportation projects, prioritizing investments based on specific criteria. While intended to create a more objective investment framework, the proposed system could inadvertently disadvantage rural jurisdictions. Urban areas, with their higher population densities and traffic volumes, may see their projects score higher, potentially leading to lower prioritization and reduced funding for rural projects.

This potential disparity could worsen existing rural challenges, including limited public transportation, deteriorating infrastructure, and reduced access to essential services. Equitable consideration of rural transportation needs is crucial to prevent further disparities between urban and rural infrastructure quality and accessibility. The scoring system must be designed with balanced criteria that account for the unique needs of rural communities. Incorporating factors like geographic equity, economic development potential, and access to essential services will help ensure fair evaluation and appropriate funding for rural projects.

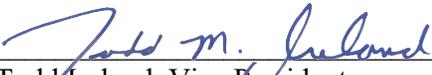
In conclusion, your oversight to ensure careful implementation is essential to avoid unintended negative impacts on rural jurisdictions such as Calvert County.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND



Earl F. Hance, President



Todd Ireland, Vice President



Mark C. Cox Sr.



Catherine M. Grasso



Mike Hart