



February 15, 2017

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve
Environment and Transportation Committee
Room 251, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 271 – Maryland Transit Administration - Farebox Recovery, Goals, and Performance Indicators – **Oppose**

Dear Delegate Barve:

House Bill 271 repeals the requirement that a specified percentage of operating costs for specified public transit services must be recovered by the Maryland Transit Administration from specified revenues. It also establishes specified goals for the Administration, alters the requirements for specified annual reports submitted by the Administration to specified committees of the General Assembly.

This bill eliminates the requirements to recover at least 35% of the total operating costs for the administration's bus, light rail, and Metro subway services in the Baltimore region and all passenger railroad services under the Administration's control, and leaves the recovery rate without a minimum requirement. It also adds several performance requirements that may well increase the operating expenses for all commuter services. This bill will require a much larger drain on the transportation trust fund and leave our residents who do not have access to public transportation in the position of subsidizing the commuters who do have such access. The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, a business advocacy organization of over 560 members, opposes this bill and asks that you give it a unfavorable report

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mike McMullin'.

Mike McMullin
President
Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

CC: Delegate Susan W. Krebs
Senator Justin Ready

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