



**Testimony by Citizens Against Beltway Expansion (CABE)  
Regarding Senate Bill 788, Transportation Climate Accountability Act  
of 2019  
Before the  
Maryland Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs  
Committee**

**March 13, 2019  
David Hondowicz, Government Relations Chair  
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Chair Pinsky, Vice Chair Nathan-Pulliam and members of the Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee, thank you for this opportunity to share the support of Citizens Against Beltway Expansion for Senate Bill 788. We appreciate the leadership Senator Rosapepe and his co-sponsors are taking by introducing this essential legislation.

SB 788 ensures a sincere and comprehensive assessment of both the natural and human environmental impact of the Governor's \$11 billion boondoggle to widen the Maryland section of I-495 and I-270 for oppressively expensive toll lanes.

It requires such a comprehensive assessment both during construction and at several intervals thereafter. It recognizes the importance of not risking any contrary impact by this massive, for-profit scheme on the State's greenhouse gas emission goals and efforts to save the Chesapeake Bay.

It recognizes the inherently significant risk of harm to the environmental challenges already facing lower-income communities by the Governor's blind determination to widen both interstates for P3 toll lanes.

Finally, SB 788 underscores that the critical assessments it requires must take place before any P3 pre-solicitation report is issued.

In conclusion, SB 788, along with its House crossfile (HB 695), HB91, HB102/SB 442, HB 663/SB 781 and HB 1091, provides greater, basic protections to all Marylanders that the Governor's plans for I-495 and I-270 are truly in the public interest, than has occurred, to date.

CABE thanks the Committee for its serious consideration of this issue and urges a favorable report on SB 788.