[**DATE**]

The Honorable [**First**] [**Last**]

Health and Government Operations Committee

Maryland House of Delegates

[Room Number]

Lowe House Office Building

Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: House Bill 1537, “Commission to Study Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Funding”

Dear Delegate [**Last**]:

I represent [**Organization Name**] and am writing in support of House Bill 1537, which aims to establish a commission to study non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) funding.

All signs are currently pointing to increased demand, especially in elderly care amongst NEMT providers. Transit providers need to have the tools in place to be able to manage the coming increase in the aging population. The amount of individuals aged 65 and older is predicted to increase 214% between 2012-2060. A longer lifespan and more medical treatments mean more trips provided by community transportation.

**[OPTIONAL: Add information about the NEMT services your organization provides here – number of trips, passengers transported, cost per mile, etc – especially year-on-year comparisons showing increase]**

My organization has many responsibilities and duties to our customers. Increased devotion of limited resources to transporting patients has a significant impact on [**ORGANIZATION’S**] ability to provide our other transit services.

I feel that the time is now for Maryland to take the lead in discovering the exact scope and nature of this growing sector of community transportation and to recommend necessary measures regarding NEMT criteria, methodology, and funding.

Thank you for considering my concerns regarding House Bill 1537. I urge you to support this necessary legislation.

Sincerely,

[**Signatory**]