



Maryland Chamber of Commerce

Legislative Position

SB 753

OPPOSE

**Budget
& Taxation
Committee
03/18/09**

SB 753

Transportation - Intercounty Connector - Elimination of Funding

Brief Summary of Bill:

SB 753 would prohibit the State Department of Transportation and the Maryland Transportation Authority from financing the Intercounty Connector (ICC).

Maryland Chamber's Position:

The Intercounty Connector has been studied for decades and is already under construction. In November 2007, the federal court denied attempts by environmental groups to stop construction of this important transportation project. SB 753 appears to be another attempt to stop progress on the ICC.

The Maryland Chamber has supported the construction of the Intercounty Connector for many years and worked in concert with the State and with other business organizations to ensure funding for this important transportation project. Connecting the I 270 corridor with other transportation modes such as the BWI International/Thurgood Marshall Airport by way of the ICC is a critical need that has enormous economic implications for the advancing of Maryland's work force and job base.

The ICC has been studied and been debated for more than 50 years. The project must move forward as planned and approved without further delay.

For these reasons, the Maryland Chamber respectfully requests that the Committee give SB 753 an unfavorable report.

If questions please contact Allyson Black, ablack@mdchamber.org