



**The Town of Cottage City
3820 40th Avenue,
Cottage City, MD 20722
(301)-779-2161**

The Honorable Chris Van Hollen
United States Senate
730 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Van Hollen:

We, the Cottage City Commission, are deeply concerned with the dangerous pilot project allowing every state to raise weights of commercial trucks by 5.5 tons. Unfortunately, this effort has been included in the critical BUILD America 250 Act (H.R. 8870). Current supporters of bigger, more dangerous trucks want them on the roads for their own financial reasons. This effort disregards safety and common sense and is a move backwards in our goal of building a more sustainable, walkable, transit-friendly town.

Bigger and heavier trucks are not an answer to our communities' issues. Although Cottage City is very small in size, even we have to content with both local delivery trucks and through truck traffic, primarily using US (Alt) 1 and sometimes trucks on 38th Avenue, connecting the primary Route 1 in neighboring Brentwood.

Allowing even bigger trucks to thunder through our community past our schools and businesses would be a mark against safety and community investment of streets and small infrastructure. Furthermore, heavier trucks will burn more fuel, and that fact issue alone will work against our goals of sustainability, as the Cottage City Green Team is one of 51 Maryland towns that are certified under Sustainable Maryland. Greater fuel consumption results in additional carbon emission and causes health concerns in our communities with the release of particulate matter.

We wanted to join the growing chorus of voices speaking out against the continued push in Congress to allow significantly heavier commercial vehicles. We hope we can count on your vote against the “91k Pilot Project” should it come up for a vote.

Sincerely,

Julia Salsich,
Commissioner Secretary, Ward 1

Josh Durant
Commissioner, Ward 2

Wanda Wheatley
Commissioner Chair, Ward 3

Tom Campos
Commissioner Vice Chair, Ward 4

John Brooks
Commissioner, At Large

