



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

BILL: House Bill 230 - Vehicle Laws - Overtaking and Passing Bicycles

SPONSOR: Delegates Wells, *et al.*

HEARING DATE: February 13, 2020

COMMITTEE: Environment and Transportation

CONTACT: Intergovernmental Affairs Office, 301-780-8411

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Office of the Prince George's County Executive **SUPPORTS House Bill 230 - Vehicle Laws - Overtaking and Passing Bicycles**, which would authorize the driver of a vehicle to drive on the left side of the roadway in a no-passing zone to overtake and pass a bicycle traveling in the same direction, at a safe distance, while yielding to the right of way to the bicyclist and oncoming traffic.

This bill will bring clarity to a safety standard in an area where current law does not reflect reality. Vehicle operators do pass bicyclists on the left side of the roadway. Rather than simply ignoring this reality, HB 230 will provide a standard for doing so more safely.

This bill is also in line with Prince George's County's Vision Zero initiative, which has a goal of achieving zero fatalities and serious injuries on the County's roadways by 2040 by utilizing the 6Es: Education, Emergency Response, Engineering, Enforcement, Evaluation, and Equity to spur effective change.

For the reasons stated above, the Office of the Prince George's County Executive **SUPPORTS House Bill 230** and asks for a **FAVORABLE** report.