LETTER OF TESTIMONY

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February 27, 2020

<u>VOTE FOR HB 920 - Motorcycles - Overtaking and Passing Vehicles</u>

Dear Environment and Transportation Committee,

I write to urge you to vote in favor of HB 920 – Motorcycles - Overtaking and Passing Vehicles

As a motorcycle rider, I am excited for this bill to be considered and up for review. As a father of twin daughters, age 6, anything that is put in place for the safety or motorcyclist that will help ensure they get home everyday, is a great thing to support. I am a big believer in safe riding so much that I am also a Motorcycle Coach for N2TrackDays. (N2 provides a structured riding environment for motorcycle riders of all levels promoting motorcycle safety through instruction on a closed course.) I believe that motorcyclists can improve their skill so that they can be safe operators on the road.

I was born and raised in California, so I also have first hand knowledge of how well this type of bill worked day to day in the state of California. I officially moved to Maryland in 2012 and have lived the contrast of not being able to filter traffic.

I commute about 100 miles every day in my motorcycle and see how distracted drivers are first hand. In stop and go traffic I am constantly at the ready to jump out of harms way as a distracted driver behind me (usually on their phone) almost rear ends me. I am not talking about a rare occurrence or something that happens here and there but something happens almost EVERY time I get on my motorcycle. Drivers are distracted.

I do believe that being able to filter traffic is described in this bill will help motorcycles be safer on our roads.

Thank you for your consideration. I hope you will vote in favor of HB 920.

Sincerely, Jose Nicolas Rivera