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February 20, 2020

Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

Re: Support for Senate Bill 512 – Vehicle Laws – Injury of Death of Vulnerable Individual - Penalties

Dear Chairman and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to address you today regarding what I feel to be, very important and needed legislation for those of us who live in Maryland.

Prior to the event which brings me before you today, I would ride anywhere from three to four thousand miles a year. On July 20th, 2017 in Columbia, MD, I decided to do a quick 20-mile bike ride before starting my workday. On my way back, I was t-boned by someone driving a minivan, resulting in my suffering a broken neck and right sided paralysis. I was transported to Shock Trauma where I underwent surgery to fix my broken neck. During that time, I learned from the Police report that the person driving that day, saw me approaching in the opposite direction, and admitted to the police that he thought he could beat me in time to make his left turn onto US29 Northbound.

I have since through intensive PT and OT, regained the ability to walk and use my right arm and hand. Nevertheless, as I stand before you today, there is not a second that goes by, despite the best treatment, where I am not in constant pain on both the left half of my body and my right arm. I am left with complications that will require constant monitoring the rest of my life because of the resulting damage to my spinal cord.

The person responsible for this received a ticket for failure to yield and a \$110.00 fine. According to court records, his license had been suspended for failure to pay the fine, but around a year or so later he paid the fine and his license was reinstated. Also, according to court records, he has a prior conviction for speeding, 60 mph in a 45mph zone, and his license was also suspended at that time for failure to pay the associated fine.

Currently, there is no legislation that would warrant a second look at those individuals who hurt someone through their gross negligence. Please consider supporting this needed legislation to help protect vulnerable users of the roads in Maryland.

Thank you for your time.

Best regards,



Nigel Samaroo, MPH