



ABATE OF MARYLAND, INC.

Dedicated to the Freedom of the Road and Responsible Motorcycle Legislation

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Kumar P. Barve, Chairman and Members of the Environmental and Transportation Committee

FROM: Executive Director, Kenneth V. Sawyer, Abate of Maryland, Inc.

DATE: January 16, 2021

RE: **HB178 – Vehicle Laws – Reckless Driving, Speed Contests, Registration Plates, and Noise 3 Abatement – Penalties**

POSITION: **UNFAVORABLE**

Abate of Maryland, Inc. is for keeping our public roads safer and, as the voice of motorcyclists throughout the state of Maryland, we are not in favor of HB178.

We support strong penalties for participants in a race or speed contest resulting in serious bodily injury and are in favor that this offense should mandate a must appear court appearance.

However, we do not support the proposed amendment to 22-609(c) of charging a \$200 fine to a person convicted of a violation of exhaust modification. We do not believe exhaust modifications are a safety issue and enforcement of modified exhaust systems could lead to police profiling of certain vehicle types and motorists.

We respectfully request an unfavorable report of HB178.

Kenneth V. Sawyer, Executive Director
Abate of Maryland, Inc.