

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: Chairman of the Board, Robert Spanburgh Jr., Abate of Maryland, Inc.

DATE: January 17, 2021

RE: HB178 – Vehicle Laws – Reckless Driving, Speed Contests,

Registration Plates, and Noise 3 Abatement – Penalties

POSITION: UNFAVORABLE

As Chairman of the Board of ABATE of Maryland and on behalf of all motorcyclists in our Great State we would like to express our opposition to House Bill 178.

We are strong advocates for responsible driving and vehicle safety. We advocate for full adherence to licensing and all traffic safety laws. We have repeatedly advocated for mandatory court appearances for any motor vehicle accidents resulting in serious bodily injury or death.

As an organization, we feel the broad-reaching aspects of HB 178 do not adequately address these issues. We fear that sub-section 22-609 may be used to profile certain types of vehicles and vehicle operators. We also believe it puts an unnecessary onus on our law enforcement officers.

We respectfully request an unfavorable report and vote on HB 178.