



Support HB19 Safe Walk to School Act

*Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County
P.O. Box 208, Arnold, MD 21012 www.bikeaaa.org*

House Appropriations Committee

January 14, 2022

Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: SUPPORT HB19 Safe Walk to School Act

Dear Chairman and Members of the Committee,

I am a resident of District 33, president of Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis and Anne Arundel County ("BikeAAA"), Chair of the Anne Arundel County Bicycle Advisory Commission, a League Cycling Instructor and an avid Maryland cyclist for over 20 years. On behalf of BikeAAA and its more than 1,000 members, we support House Bill 19. This bill will improve safe school routes across Maryland. It will also provide a foundation to strengthen Maryland jurisdiction's ability to obtain federal and other grants that support safe routes to school.

Here in Anne Arundel County and across Maryland, thousands of children walk or bike to their schools on Bike/Walk to School Day. Unfortunately, many require police escort on busy roads. If we provide more safe routes, more children will be able to bike or walk on a regular basis. Teachers will tell you that children that bike or walk to school arrive more energized and ready to learn.

This bill is consistent with the recommendations of the 2017 Maryland Bicycle Safety Task Force which I served on. Safe bicycling promotes health, reduces traffic, improves the environment and stimulates economic growth.

Please provide a Favorable Report.

Sincerely,

Jon Korin

President, Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County

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