



SB11 MOTOR VEHICLES – ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHOOL ZONES

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ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

OPPOSE

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Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) opposes **SB11 – Motor Vehicles – Establishment of School Zones**. This bill requires that a school zone be adjacent to a school and prohibits a school zone from exceeding a 500-foot radius, unless specifically recommended by a traffic engineer study.

AACPS opposes proposals which limit local authority over school facility prioritization, design, construction, procurement, maintenance, or operations, particularly when it results in reduced safety for students. This proposal which mandates design and operation standards for school zones will result in the significant reduction in the radius of permissible school zones and the corresponding use of speed monitoring cameras and creates genuine safety issues in these school zones for drivers and pedestrians alike.

Current law permits school zones that are a half-mile in radius. This bill will result in significantly smaller school zones when a larger school zone is not specifically recommended by a traffic engineer. Shrinking the permissible school zone radius will result in less stopping time for drivers traveling in the school zone, increasing the risk of injury to students walking or biking to or from school in the school zone. Student safety is of the utmost important to AACPS. Accordingly, AACPS respectfully requests an **UNFAVORABLE** committee report on SB11.