



Montgomery County

Office of Intergovernmental Relations

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SB 11

DATE: January 25, 2023

SPONSOR: Senator Sydnor

ASSIGNED TO: Judicial Proceedings

CONTACT PERSON: Sara Morningstar (Sara.Morningstar@montgomerycountymd.gov)

POSITION: OPPOSE

Motor Vehicles – Speed Limits – School Zones

Senate Bill 11 would reduce the school zone radius from .5 mile to .1 mile within which automated traffic enforcement systems could be placed and used. Montgomery County opposes this legislation.

School zones are intended to provide a safer environment for children and their families getting to and from schools. By limiting the State Highway Administration or a local authority from establishing traffic safety treatments in those areas, such as automated speed enforcement, motorists may more easily ignore or forget mandatory lower speed zones which protect children walking and bicycling within proximity of schools.

Montgomery County encourages greater walkability in our communities. As one of the first county governments in the nation to initiate a Vision Zero plan, we are committed to eliminating serious and fatal collisions on our roads. Shrinking the size of existing and future school zones- as proposed under Senate Bill 11 – directly challenges our ongoing efforts that are supported by our residents.

Montgomery County would urge that the Committee adopt an unfavorable report on Senate Bill 11.