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**HB 360 – Reckless and Negligent Driving
Death of Another – Must Appear Violation
Sherry’s and Christian’s Law**

WHAT DOES THIS BILL DO?

HB 360 will require motorists involved in a fatal motorcycle accident to appear in court. This is the same law passed for bicyclists a few years ago.

WHAT PROBLEM ARE WE TRYING TO SOLVE?

Tragically, motorcyclists are involved in fatal automobile accidents every year. Motorcyclists are very vulnerable when involved in an accident with a vehicle. Motorists’ inattention and distracted driving when a motorcyclist is involved can result in a death. If the driver is charged with negligent or reckless driving, they are currently permitted to pay the fine and not appear in court. HB 360 will require the motorist involved to appear in court. This will allow for reconciliation and healing for all parties involved. The death of a person, even by accident, should rise to the level of this minimal requirement.

Judges have discretion to waive this requirement should that be necessary.

This is the same respect this very committee applied to bicyclists a few years ago. Bicyclists and motorcyclists both deserve equal treatment under the law. The families of those who have lost their lives, as well as the drivers involved in a fatal accident, should have the opportunity for accountability and healing.

Please support the Maryland motorcycle community and vote in favor of HB 360