



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Wes Moore

February 15, 2024

The Honorable Marc Korman
Chair, House Environment and Transportation Committee
251 House Office Building
Annapolis MD 21401

RE: Letter of Support – House Bill 513 – Motor Vehicles – Work Zone Speed Control Systems – Revisions (Maryland Road Worker Protection Act of 2024)

Chair Korman, Vice Chair Boyce, and Distinguished Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee,

On behalf of Governor Moore and Lieutenant Governor Miller, I respectfully ask the Committee for a favorable report on House Bill House Bill 513 – Motor Vehicles – Work Zone Speed Control Systems – Revisions (Maryland Road Worker Protection Act of 2024).

In recent years, we have seen more accidents along our roadways, including crashes around work zone areas. Last year alone, Maryland experienced over 1,200 crashes in work zones in the state. This includes one of the deadliest work zone crashes in Maryland history in March that claimed the lives of six roadway workers along I-695 in Baltimore. These are happening too often and claiming too many lives of those who were simply there to make our roads safer and better.

In April of last year (2023), Governor Moore announced the Work Zone Safety Work Group to address this issue, and identify a comprehensive strategy to improve driver awareness and safety on our roadways. This workgroup included legislators and a diverse group of stakeholders with direct experience in work zones. The work group announced its final recommendations in November 2023, which include proposed budgetary, regulatory, and legislative actions. The Maryland Road Worker Protection Act of 2024 aims to implement the legislative recommendations into action by increasing fines for work zone speed camera violations, prohibiting double citations, expanding work zone speed camera enforcement flexibility, and requiring the reinvestment of citation revenue for work zone safety.

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This bill aims to provide State and local governments more flexibility to take necessary actions in work zones, including allowing cameras to be placed at multiple locations throughout a work zone and compel drivers to change their behavior and slow down as they are driving through a work zone.

Finally, the bill invests the revenue from work zone speed enforcement fines back into highway and work zone safety programs to change driver behavior and reduce crashes, fatalities, and injuries on our roadways.

These provisions combined, the Maryland Road Worker Protection Act aims to make our work zones safer and protect our roadway workers. For these reasons, I respectfully ask the committee for a favorable report on House Bill 513.

Sincerely,

Saif Ratul
Deputy Legislative Officer