



HB 028: Pedestrian Fatality Prevention Act of 2024  
House Environment and Transportation Committee  
Terps For Bike Lanes – FAVORABLE

February 1, 2024

Chair Korman and Committee Members,

As members of Terps for Bike Lanes, we are writing to express our strong support for HB0028: Passenger, Truck, and Multipurpose Vehicles - Annual Registration Fees, also known as the Pedestrian Fatality Prevention Act of 2024, sponsored by Del. R. Lewis. Terps for Bike Lanes is dedicated to enhancing bicycle infrastructure in and around our campus, but we recognize that road safety is a collective responsibility that extends to all road users. We believe that HB0028 is a piece of legislation that aligns with our commitment to creating a safer and more inclusive environment for everyone.

The proposed increase in annual registration fees for passenger, certain truck, and multipurpose vehicles based on specific vehicle weight classifications is a step in the right direction. This measure not only addresses the importance of pedestrian safety but also contributes to funding initiatives that enhance overall road safety infrastructure. While our primary focus is on promoting bicycle infrastructure, we understand the interconnected nature of road safety measures. The revenue generated through increased registration fees can play a significant role in supporting initiatives that benefit pedestrians, cyclists, and all road users alike. Pedestrian safety is a shared concern, and we appreciate the proactive approach taken by the Pedestrian Fatality Prevention Act of 2024. By tying registration fees to vehicle weight classifications, this legislation encourages responsible ownership and contributes to the overall safety of our roads.

To provide context for our endorsement, we would like to draw attention to recent research that underscores the importance of such measures. "The Impact of Registration Fees on Driving and Traffic Safety: A Literature Review" (2021) by Litman discusses the link between registration fees, vehicle choices, and traffic-related deaths, including pedestrian casualties. Another relevant study

is "Road Pricing for Traffic Congestion Management and Environmental Pollution Mitigation: A Literature Review" (2022) by Li et al., which explores the concept of road pricing, including registration fee adjustments, and its potential effects on traffic behavior and safety. We wish to highlight the economic and societal benefits associated with pedestrian safety efforts, as outlined in various impactful studies. "The Economic Burden of Road Traffic Crashes: Global Estimates 2000-2016" (2019) by the World Health Organization emphasizes the significant economic costs associated with road traffic crashes, including those involving pedestrians. "Investing in Walkable Communities: A Return on Investment Analysis" (2015) by Smart Growth America demonstrates the economic and social benefits of investing in pedestrian infrastructure and safety measures.

Terps for Bike Lanes supports the need to find a balance between regulatory measures and the interests of vehicle owners. We believe that the proposed increase in annual registration fees is a reasonable and effective means of generating funds to invest in infrastructure and initiatives that will benefit the entire community. In conclusion, we urge you to support and vote in favor of HB0028. By doing so, we collectively take a step towards preventing pedestrian fatalities and enhancing road safety for all. We appreciate your dedication to public safety and look forward to positive advancements in legislation that prioritize the well-being of our community.

Sincerely,

President - Nicholas Marks

Vice President - Olivia Dinkel

Treasurer - Parisi Fida

Secretary - Stefano Raffo

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