



Senate Bill 345

Transportation – Vision Zero Advisory Commission - Establishment

MACo Position: **SUPPORT**

To: Judicial Proceedings Committee

Date: February 13, 2024

From: Sarah Sample

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) **SUPPORTS** SB 345. This bill establishes the Vision Zero Advisory Commission to reduce the number of vehicle-related deaths by making roadways safer for all residents regardless of transportation mode.

Vision Zero projects require a substantial commitment from local jurisdictions in both time and money. This is an undertaking that counties do not take lightly, and where many are already making significant investments. Additionally, these cross-departmental and cross-jurisdictional projects demand constant collaboration and coordination. Counties recognize and appreciate the inclusion of local officials and experts on the Commission established by SB 345 and look forward to engaging productively. Making roadways safer for vehicles, pedestrians, bicyclists, and more will bring about greater transportation equity and mobility access for all residents.

A larger collaboration between state and local officials, with the diversity of representation outlined in the bill, will undoubtedly enable all stakeholders in the effort to reduce vehicle-related deaths across Maryland. For this reason, MACo **SUPPORTS** SB 345 and urges a **FAVORABLE** report.