

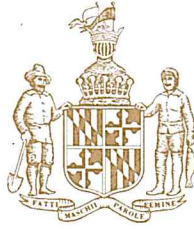
Delegation Ltr of Support

Uploaded by: Alonzo Washington

Position: FAV

MICHAEL A. JACKSON
CHAIR

RON WATSON, PH.D
VICE CHAIR



MALCOLM AUGUSTINE
JOANNE C. BENSON
NICK CHARLES
C. ANTHONY MUSE
JIM ROSAPEPE
ALONZO T. WASHINGTON

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY SENATE DELEGATION

February 15, 2024

Senator William C. Smith, Jr., Chair
Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Smith:

Please let this letter serve as official notice of the support of the Prince George's County Senate Delegation for Senate Bill 155 (Vehicle Laws – Noise Abatement Monitoring Systems – Authorization) with the included amendments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Michael A. Jackson".

Senator Michael A. Jackson, Chair
Prince George's County Senate Delegation

Cc: Senator Alonzo Washington



SB0155/303524/1

AMENDMENTS
PREPARED
BY THE
DEPT. OF LEGISLATIVE
SERVICES

14 FEB 24
13:41:03

BY: Prince George's County Senators
(To be offered in the Judicial Proceedings Committee)

AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 155
(First Reading File Bill)

On page 1, in the sponsor line, strike “**Senator A. Washington**” and substitute
“**Senators A. Washington, Augustine, Benson, Jackson, Muse, and Rosapepe**”.

Montgomery County Delegation Ltr.

Uploaded by: Alonzo Washington

Position: FAV

SENATOR BENJAMIN F. KRAMER
SENATE DELEGATION CHAIR

SENATOR ARIANA KELLY
SENATE DELEGATION VICE CHAIR

301-858-3151 · 410-841-3151
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DELEGATE JULIE PALAKOVICH CARR
HOUSE DELEGATION CHAIR

DELEGATE EMILY SHETTY
HOUSE DELEGATION VICE CHAIR

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800-492-7122 Ext. 3037

THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
MONTGOMERY COUNTY DELEGATION

February 29, 2024

The Honorable Will Smith
Chairman
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
Miller Senate Office Building - 2 East

RE: *SB 155//HB 212 Vehicle Laws – Noise Abatement – Authorization*
Montgomery County Senate and House Delegations – Support

Dear Chairman Smith:

This letter is to inform your Committee that SB 155/HB 212 *Vehicle Laws – Noise Abatement – Authorization* has been voted out Favorable by both the Senate and House Delegations of Montgomery County.

These bills were pre-filed and are a very similar to the 2023 legislation SB 229 *Vehicle Laws - Noise Abatement Monitoring Systems - Authorization, Use, and Penalties*. At that time, the Senate Judiciary voted out SB 229 Favorable with Amendment. The bill then went on to pass the full Senate.

We now urge the Judiciary Committee to issue a Favorable report for SB 155 and the cross-file HB 212. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie Carr'.

Julie Palakovich Carr
Chair
Montgomery County House Delegation

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Benjamin F. Kramer'.

Ben Kramer
Chair
Montgomery County Senate Delegation

Noise Abatement Public Testimony (1).pdf

Uploaded by: Alonzo Washington

Position: FAV



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Public Testimony on SB155 Noise Abatement Monitoring Systems

Noise from vehicles with illegally modified exhaust systems or muffler problems is a growing problem in communities across the state. Overly loud vehicles are a quality-of-life concern for community members, especially those adjacent to multi-lane highways where racing engines can be heard blocks away.

For these reasons, I am introducing SB155, which would enable counties and municipalities within Montgomery, Anne-Arundel, and Prince George's Counties to use noise abatement monitoring systems to automatically detect vehicles in violation of state motor vehicle noise requirements. By using noise cameras, counties, and municipalities can address excessive noise concerns without increasing traffic stops by law enforcement.

Maryland and federal regulations both establish a maximum sound limit of 80 decibels for vehicles sold and operating on our state's roads. Under current law, it's illegal to modify a vehicle's exhaust system or to operate a vehicle that exceeds this threshold. These laws exist because excessive noise negatively affects the health of humans and animals, including increased risk of hearing damage, elevated blood pressure, higher stress levels, stroke, and dementia, in addition to being a public nuisance.

Although state law currently allows for police to ticket excessively loud vehicles, enforcement is difficult. Most police officers are not equipped with decibel meters and many police departments don't want to increase traffic stops.

New technology is emerging to automatically detect excessively loud vehicles and to send the vehicle owner a citation. Noise cameras work similarly to speed cameras, with technology placed adjacent to a road that can measure the loudness of each vehicle that drives past. If a vehicle exceeds 80 decibels, the noise camera is triggered to take a picture of the license plate of the offending vehicle.

The cameras are sophisticated enough to recognize the difference between different types of sound by monitoring the noise pattern. As such, these noise cameras can specifically look for noise caused by illegally modified exhaust pipes and mufflers.

Several states and cities have taken action to authorize and start using noise cameras. New York City has been using noise cameras for more than 2 years and is rapidly expanding its program across its boroughs. Their program has been very successful in detecting cars with illegally modified exhaust systems and getting vehicles into compliance with the law. In its pilot phase, New York used just one camera and caught over 500 violators. They recently added 7 new cameras and anticipate having up to 100 cameras by 2028.

Knoxville, Tennessee started a pilot program in February 2022 and has since decided to continue the use of noise cameras. Albuquerque, New Mexico is moving ahead with sound cameras. Washington, DC, and Miami Beach, Florida are considering the use of noise cameras. Worldwide, several jurisdictions currently use or will soon be deploying noise cameras, including in Paris, Taipei, the United Kingdom, and Australia.

This bill is modeled after Maryland's speed camera program and includes the same legislative safeguards:

- Enables local governments to use sound cameras to catch illegally loud vehicles.
- A local government would need to authorize the use of the sound cameras, after public notice and holding at least one public hearing.
- Before each sound camera could be installed, the local government would need to provide public notice about the proposed location of the camera and install a sign near the camera that indicates that noise abatement monitoring is happening in the area.
- An employee of the local government must review each citation.
- For the first offense, a warning must be issued.
 - For subsequent offenses, a citation is mailed for a civil penalty of up to \$70—the same penalty if a law enforcement officer issues the violation.
 - No points can be assessed.
- A vehicle owner who receives a citation can either pay it or contest it in court.
- Rental car companies are exempted, as they are under the speed camera law.
- The camera vendor's fee cannot be contingent on a per-ticket basis.

For these reasons, I seek a favorable committee report on SB155.

SB155 Support Letter.pdf

Uploaded by: Brad Frome

Position: FAV



January 30, 2024

Attn: Senator William C. Smith, Jr.

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Support of SB155 / National Harbor

Dear Chair Smith,

On behalf of the National Harbor Owners Association – it's more than 3,000 residents, Hoteliers, Restaurants and Retailers and our 14 million visitors annually, please allow this letter to serve in support of SB155. Since its inception and opening in 2008 – National Harbor has served as a world class destination and community offering residents and visitors an experiential destination and is an economic engine for Prince Georges County and the State.

Representing National Harbor as the Developer of record and the Manager of record we believe that in order to offer a world class destination the quality of experience must match up with a positive environment. In order to better manage our environment – we believe that SB155 offers an opportunity to enforce existing noise violations to a standard that will limit a current challenge that severely and negatively impacts our guest and residents. On any given day but in particular on weekends the site is plagued by vehicles that are either blaring music or revving motorcycle or vehicle engines. This is done with such frequency and intensity that our reputation as a family friendly and special occasion location is being harmed. This is not the high-quality experience people expect from a multi-billion-dollar development.

The technology the bill supports and offers would allow for enforcement capabilities that law enforcement does not have and we believe would dramatically reduce the noise pollution at National Harbor. In short SB155 is something long overdue in creating a better quality of experience for the greater community and for ours.

Sincerely,

Chris

Christopher J. Borgal

AVP Asset Management & Operations

Peterson Management, LCC

SB0155_FAV_City of Rockville_Veh. Laws - Noise Aba

Uploaded by: Christine Krone

Position: FAV



Testimony of the Mayor and Council of Rockville
SB 155 – Vehicle Laws – Noise Abatement Monitoring Systems –
Authorization
SUPPORT

The City of Rockville is thankful to Chairman Smith and members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee for the opportunity to provide written comments regarding SB 155. We are thankful to Senator Washington for sponsoring this important legislation.

The Mayor and Council unanimously support SB 155, which authorizes local governments to install noise monitoring systems on roadways. In recent years, excessive noise from vehicles with illegally modified exhaust has negatively impacted our cities and towns by frightening those on sidewalks, in nearby cars, and disturbing residents in the privacy of their homes.

We strongly support the provisions of SB 155 for the following reasons:

- This legislation would help address the ongoing concerns our residents have regarding excessive noise disruptions.
- SB 155 would broadly expand the capability of the City Police to address this public nuisance, as there aren't enough police patrols in the City and Montgomery County to respond to noise violations through traffic enforcement.
- We saw a dramatic and positive change in driver behavior when speed and red-light cameras were installed in Rockville. SB 155 has the potential to have a similar impact by providing an incentive for drivers to comply with laws governing noise violations.

Automated noise monitoring systems are a promising new tool that could dramatically reduce noise pollution, excessive noise violations, and restore peace and quiet for those enjoying a walk, a bike ride, or working from home. For these reasons, we urge the Committee to provide SB 155 with a favorable report. Thank you.

SB 155 Noise Abatement Monitoring System

Uploaded by: Fazlul Kabir

Position: FAV



CITY OF COLLEGE PARK

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL

7401 BALTIMORE AVENUE SUITE 201 COLLEGE PARK MD 20740 | COLLEGEPAKMD.GOV

February 6, 2024

MAYOR

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Maria E. Mackie

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202.993.0395

Denise C. Mitchell

Mayor Pro Tem

dmitchell@collegetparkmd.gov
301.852.8126

Senator William C. Smith, Jr.
Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Support for Senate Bill 0155 - Vehicle Laws - Noise Abatement
Monitoring Systems - Authorization

Dear Chair Smith and Committee Members:

The College Park City Council voted unanimously during the meeting of January 23, 2024, to support SB 0155, which would authorize the use of noise abatement monitoring systems in Anne Arundel County, Montgomery County, and Prince George's County. We appreciate the sponsors who have brought forward this legislation.

Our neighborhoods have suffered from disturbances due to vehicles with illegal modified mufflers. These actions harm communities and waste resources to discourage the offenders. SB 0155 will provide additional tools to effectively enforce certain motor vehicle noise requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of the City's position.

Sincerely,

Fazlul Kabir
Mayor

cc: Maryland 21st District Delegation

SB 155 Supporting Testimony_000010.pdf

Uploaded by: John Becker

Position: FAV



SafeRoadsMD

Date January 30, 2024

To: Judicial Proceedings Committee: Chair Smith and Vice Chair Waldstreicher
Senators: Carter, Charles, Folden, James, Kelly McKay, Muse, Sydnor, and West

Re: Sponsoring Senator: Alonzo T Washington
Senate Bill SB0155: **Vehicle Laws-Noise Abatement Monitoring Systems-Authorization**

I, John Becker as a member of the Board of Directors of Safe Roads Maryland do hereby submit the following as written testimony in support of the referenced bill and urge the entire Judicial Proceedings Committee to vote a favorable decision to support Senator Washington's bill. From our bio-sheet attached you will note that Safe Roads is devoted to reducing death and injury on Maryland Roads which affect drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists, law enforcement, fire life safety and ambulance, towing and cleanup personnel and road construction, maintenance and repair personnel from the results of unsafe road way events.

As bill SB0155 addresses noise from traffic, there is a safety concern with the violation of the noise limit of vehicles in Maryland. Drivers/owners that modify their vehicles (cars, suvs, trucks, motorcycles) present to the public a safety problem, for to enjoy their loud modified exhaust systems, they must accelerate way above the speed limits that are posted throughout Maryland. You can't hear the sound of a modified exhaust system at 30 mph. You definitely can hear the sound of a modified exhaust system at 50/60/65 mph.

Therefore the noise abatement monitoring systems described by Senate Bill sb0155 will assist in reducing the violation of speed laws in residential areas as well as the loud obnoxious noise which affects our quality of life.

Clearly the Maryland state transportation laws, state that it is a violation to speed above the limit posted on our roads as well as a produce noise at decibel levels determined to be obnoxious and unsafe.

As a constituent I live across the street from the Rockville Metro Station, in downtown Rockville, Maryland. My fellow homeowners and residents have to listen to the traffic every day violating Maryland law by their obnoxiously loud modified exhaust systems, and the speed by which they need to achieve such a loud sound that violates the Maryland speed limit law and the local limit assessed by the City of Rockville and Montgomery County.

These violations are not a couple of miles per hour above the speed limit or a few decibels above the law they are upwards of 20 to 30 miles per hour above the posted speed limit and 10+ decibels above stated limit in the Maryland Law

We as citizens have to live with this problem morning, noon, evening, and even late night into early morning hours on weekends. We plead for your help in reducing and stopping these violations of the law that affect our right to enjoy living in our communities, affect the value of

Maryland Coalition for Roadway Safety, Inc.
PO Box 7, Olney, MD 20830 (202) 468-7682

our homes and allow an unsafe road way environment for fellow drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists, and residents

Currently the Maryland Transportation Code provides guidance on the standards and violations according to noise and speed and such violations must not be allowed to continue.

Therefore please move senate bill 155 forward with favorable support.

Thanks to Senator Washington for sponsoring SB 155 and to the entire Judicial Proceedings Committee members and staff for your time.

Good Luck!

Regards,



John Becker
Member of the Board of Safe Roads Maryland
PO Box 7
Olney, MD 20832
Mobile: 301 852 9051
jb@saferoadsmd.org

Cc: House of Delegates Sponsors: Palakovich Carr, Lehman, Charkoudian, Healey, Kaufman, Pena-Melnyk, Solomon, Spiegel, and Wims;
John Seng, President of Safe Roads Maryland
Residents and Home Owner Associations that live along Rockville Pike, Veirs Mill Road, East Jefferson/West Montgomery Ave., and throughout the State of Maryland
City of Rockville Mayor Ashton, Council Members: Fulton, Jackson, Myles, Shaw, Valeri, and Van Grack
Rockville Chief of Police: Victor Brito
Rockville Community Policing Advisory Board
City of Gaithersburg: Mayor, Council and Chief of Police
Montgomery County Council
Montgomery County Council Public Safety Committee
Montgomery County Chief of Police
Takoma Park Mayor, Council and Chief of Police
Maryland General Assembly District 17 Senator Kagan; Delegates Spiegel, Vogel, and the
Montgomery County Delegation Senators: Hester, Zucker, Feldman, Kelly, Waldstreicher, Kramer, and King
Montgomery County Delegation Delegates: Wu, Ziegler, Zucker, Kaiser, Mireku-North, Queen, Foley, Fraser-Hidalgo, Qi, Korman, Love, Wolek, Vogel, Kaufman, Shetty, Solomon, Crutchfield, Cullison, Stewart, Charkoudian, Moon, Wilkins, Acevero, and Lopez

SB 155 Noise Abatement Monitoring System - Penalti

Uploaded by: Jud Ashman

Position: FAV



January 23, 2024

Bill: Vehicle Laws – Noise Abatement Monitoring Systems – Authorization, Use, and Penalties

Position: Support

Dear Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee:

The City of Gaithersburg writes to support Vehicle Laws – Noise Abatement Monitoring Systems – Authorization. If enacted, this legislation would authorize a local government to use noise abatement monitoring systems.

We believe this bill is a significant step towards mitigating the negative effects of excessive noise levels to those in our community. The use of noise abatement monitoring systems will enable local governments to better monitor and enforce noise regulations, ultimately promoting a peaceful living environment. Moreover, the establishment of certain defenses to a charge of an alleged violation recorded by a noise abatement monitoring system provides necessary safeguards to ensure that the law is enforced fairly and accurately. This will prevent false or incorrect citations from being issued and ensure that drivers have a fair opportunity to contest their citations, if necessary.

This bill is also crucial for the health and well-being of our residents, as excessive noise levels have been linked to stress, sleep disturbances, and even cardiovascular disease. The provisions in this bill will enable local governments to better control, and monitor, the sources of noise pollution, providing a safer and more comfortable living environment for all our residents.

Therefore, we respectfully request a favorable report on SB155.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 301-466-5350 or our government relations consultant, Sarah Peters at speters@hbstrategies.us.

Respectfully submitted,

Jud Ashman, Mayor
City of Gaithersburg

City of Gaithersburg • 31 South Summit Avenue, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877-2038
301-258-6300 • FAX 301-948-6149 • cityhall@gaithersburgmd.gov • gaithersburgmd.gov

MAYOR
Jud Ashman

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Neil Harris
Lisa Henderson
Yamil Hernández
Jim McNulty
Robert Wu

CITY MANAGER
Tanisha R. Briley

MML-SB 155 - SWA.pdf

Uploaded by: Bill Jorch

Position: FWA



Maryland Municipal League
The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

January 31, 2024

Committee: Senate Judicial Proceedings

Bill: _____ SB 155 - Vehicle Laws - Noise Abatement Monitoring Systems - Authorization

Position: Favorable with Amendment

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League supports Senate Bill 155 with amendment, which will significantly aid municipalities curb the rising problem of vehicles creating excessive noise. As introduced, the bill would grant municipalities in Anne Arundel, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties the authority to install noise abatement monitoring systems. MML requests an amendment to expand that authority to local governments state-wide.

Currently, municipal police officers are permitted to stop a vehicle that emits a noise in excess of the noise emitted by the vehicle as originally manufactured, but they must do so based on their training and experience. Allowing municipalities to install noise abatement monitoring systems, after a transparent public process, accomplishes two key points:

- Reduces the instances that a police officer needs to make a traffic stop to issue a citation for a noise violation.
- More accurately assesses citations, as the noise abatement monitoring systems are precisely calibrated to a certain decibel level before recording an image of the vehicle.

The new authority provided in SB 155 should significantly assist municipalities to address the problem of excessively noisy vehicles operating on our roadways, which is occurring across the State. For this reason, the League respectfully requests that the committee provide Senate Bill 155 with a favorable report with this important amendment.

MML Amendment (page 4 line 23):

~~(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY IN ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, AND PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY.~~

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

1212 West Street, Annapolis, Maryland 21401

410-268-5514 | 800-492-7121 | FAX: 410-268-7004 | www.mdmunicipal.org

Theresa Kuhns
Angelica Bailey Thupari, Esq.
Bill Jorch
Justin Fiore

Chief Executive Officer
Director, Advocacy & Public Affairs
Director, Public Policy & Research
Deputy Director, Advocacy & Public Affairs

2024 MD Noise Camera Oppose.pdf

Uploaded by: Christian Robinson

Position: UNF



January 30, 2024

Maryland Senate
Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: SEMA Opposition to SB 155/HB 212

Chairman of the Board

* Kyle Fickler

Chair-Elect

* Melanie White

**Immediate Past Chairman
& Secretary**

* James Lawrence

Treasurer

* Tim McCarthy

Board of Directors

Rich Butler
Lindsay Hubley
Norris Marshall
Larry Montante
Kim Pendergast
Brian Reese
Kathryn Reinhardt
Marcus Umlauff
Ted Wentz III
Steve Whipple

President and CEO

Mike Spagnola

General Counsel

David P. Goch

* Executive Committee

Dear Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee:

On behalf of the Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA), I would like to thank lawmakers in Maryland for their thoughtful attempts in recent years to deal with motor vehicle exhaust noise. However, I write in respectful opposition to Senate Bill (SB) 155/ House Bill (HB) 212, which would allow three counties to enforce certain motor vehicle noise requirements with the use of sound-activated enforcement devices to issue citations. Rather than investing in unproven technology, Maryland needs to implement a fair testing procedure and decibel limit for vehicle owners accused of exhaust noise violations. Other states have adopted a decibel limit of 95 decibels when tested using an SAE International procedure, which provides a fair and reasonable working system. This SEMA-supported SAE test is conducted in a controlled environment using objective methodology. This solution offers Maryland a clear standard with a proven record of success.

Noise Cameras Aren't Ready for Primetime

The technology implemented by sound-activated enforcement devices is in its nascent stages and requires manual review before a ticket is issued. These devices contain a sound meter that triggers a camera to be activated if an upper sound limit is reached. However, neither the sound meter nor the camera can differentiate what caused the offending noise. It is up to the reviewer to make that determination, which may require that individual to select from a group of vehicles in an intersection and then issue a citation. Given the bill's stated intent for use in heavily populated counties, which will have a higher number of vehicles and buildings (that amplify sound), the feasibility of using these devices to pinpoint and ticket the offending vehicle accurately is questionable.

Cities that have deployed noise cameras, such as New York, Knoxville, Edmonton, and Toronto, have reported issues identifying offending vehicles and either failed to issue tickets or scrapped their programs

1575 S. Valley Vista Dr.
Diamond Bar, CA 91765-3914

909-610-2030

E-mail: sema@sema.org
Website: www.sema.org

entirely. In Edmonton, the city spent \$192,000 in equipment over a three-month period and only produced one enforcement.

In 2022, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed into law a bill (SB 1079) that requires the state to study the effectiveness of noise-detecting cameras to enforce motor-vehicle exhaust noise laws prior to deploying them. An early version of the bill would have allowed six cities to begin issuing tickets using cameras, but the bill was amended after it was determined that the technology was too early in development to be a reliable enforcement mechanism.

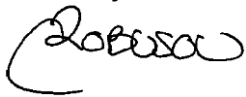
Until the technology is proven reliable, Maryland should only consider a penalty-free pilot to compile the data necessary to move forward.

One Standard to Rule Them All

For decades, SEMA has successfully worked to ensure that states enact reasonable muffler noise laws that are not burdensome to the industry while not creating a nuisance for local communities. Successfully enacted in states such as California, Maine and Montana, SEMA's model bill sets one exhaust noise limit (95 decibels) and uses an objective test procedure (SAE J1492) to determine compliance. This testing procedure provides a fair and reasonable working system. This SAE test is conducted in a controlled environment using an objective methodology.

The Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA) is a trade association that consists of a diverse group of manufacturers, distributors, retailers, publishing companies, auto restorers, street-rod builders, restylers, car clubs, race teams and more. SEMA members make, buy, sell and use all kinds of specialty parts and accessories to make vehicles more attractive, more unique, more convenient, faster, safer, more fun and even like-new again. SEMA represents more than 7,000 small businesses nationwide and 72 local businesses in Maryland. The specialty equipment industry contributes \$3.24 billion to Maryland's economy, including 14,946 jobs, \$1.19 billion in total wages and benefits, and \$530.24 million in taxes, annually.

Sincerely,



Christian Robison
Senior Director, State Government Affairs & Grassroots
Specialty Equipment Market Association

SB0155 - SHA - Noise Abatement Systems_LOI_FINAL.p

Uploaded by: Patricia Westervelt

Position: INFO

January 31, 2024

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.
Chair, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis MD 21401

RE: Letter of Information – Senate Bill 155 – Vehicle Laws – Noise Abatement Monitoring Systems – Authorization

Dear Chair Smith and members of the Committee:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) offers the following letter of information for the Committee's consideration on Senate Bill 155.

Senate Bill 155 authorizes the use of noise abatement monitoring systems in Anne Arundel County, Montgomery County, and Prince George's County to enforce violations of State law governing maximum sound limits of motor vehicles. The use of noise abatement monitoring systems must be authorized by local law.

The State Highway Administration (SHA) understands the implementation and operation of these noise abatement monitoring system programs to be matters of local concern. In those instances where equipment would be mounted to, or utilize SHA infrastructure or right-of-way, SHA will maintain approval or permitting processes in a similar manner to those for other types of automated enforcement systems. As a part of this process, SHA would seek to recover costs from sponsor agencies for SHA's engineering reviews and permit approvals.

The Maryland Department of Transportation respectfully requests the Committee consider this information during its deliberations of Senate Bill 155.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Mickler
Division Chief, Legislative Services
State Highway Administration
410-545-5629

Pilar Helm
Director of Government Affairs
Maryland Department of Transportation
410-865-1090