

Good Afternoon to you all and thank you for this opportunity. My name is Miranda Gross. I am the Dispatcher for Sunrise Safety Services. I have been with Sunrise for 15 years. The first 8 years were on the roadways.

Sunrise Safety Services is a traffic control company located in Glen Burnie, Maryland. We fabricate signs, banners, car decals, and so much more in our sign shop. We also install signs, tape, and crash cushions on the roadways. As well as provide lane closures, flagging operations, road closures, detours and so much more. Most importantly we are a family. We have 118 employees and I have a personal connection with them all. I love these men and woman and their families. I have to do everything in my power to keep them safe. We have our own safety committee and meet every week to find more ways to make us safer. On top of that we meet with our MOT managers once a month and our entire company once a month as well in order to keep our road crews informed and engaged.

I am here today to speak in favor of Senate Bill 479 – the Maryland Road Worker Protection Act.

We desperately need to see safety changes made in Maryland's work zones. Every day our workers put their life on the line and we need to ensure they go home each night to their families. I know that these changes are a step in the right direction. I appreciate Governor Moore and Lt. Governor Miller for all their hard work and for introducing this bill to protect Maryland's work zone employees. I would like to thank them for not just myself but the construction community. So many have not had

the pleasure to see and feel the love, energy and concern that they have shown from the very beginning.

On March 22, 2023, all of us in this field felt this tragedy. My phone immediately started blowing up with phone calls and text messages from our employees and contractors asking if we were ok and who was involved. Allot of us have worked with some who lost their lives that day. We cried and mourned over this. We never want any family to go through what these families have gone through. Imagine going to work to provide for your family and not making it home, not because you did anything unsafe or wrong but because others have no concept what their choices can do. Please help us make a change and a difference to keep our men and woman safe.

Thank you for your time today and I ask that you please vote favorably on Senate Bill 479. Have a wonderful day.