



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

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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
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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