



Bryna Clark-Braverman
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Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 87
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
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Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of committee for allowing me the opportunity to testify today in support of Senate Bill 87, which is very important to MADD as it shows how serious the state of Maryland takes the violent crime of drunk and drug-impaired driving. My name is Bryna Clark-Braverman and I am Regional Executive Director for the Maryland chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

MADD thanks Carozza for authoring this proposal. Drunk and drug-impaired driving is a violent crime. SB 87 begins to recognize impaired driving a violent crime and deserves this committee's full support.

For anyone who has not been impacted by a violent crash caused by an impaired driver, it may be surprising to learn that every day in the United States, 37 people are killed and more than 1,000 people are injured just by drunk driving. That does not take into account the horrific crashes caused by other drugs such as cannabis and opioids.

Since 2019, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, drunk driving deaths have increased 17% resulting in 195 preventable deaths in 2021 in Maryland. Maryland is not alone in historic increases in drunk driving deaths. Throughout the nation, drunk driving deaths are at a historic high.

Lawmakers must take action and recognize that drunk driving and drug-impaired is a serious violent crime. SB 87 accomplishes this goal. The goal of SB 87 is not more incarceration, but rather justice for victim and victim survivors who lost a loved one due to the 100% preventable violent crime of drunk and drug-impaired driving.

Mr. Chairman and members of committee, thank you for allowing me to testify today on behalf of Mothers Against Drunk Driving. We urge your support of SB 87. Thank you.