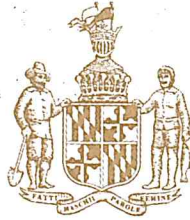


MICHAEL A. JACKSON
Legislative District 27
Calvert, Charles and
Prince George's Counties



Annapolis Office
Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Suite 3 West
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3700 · 301-858-3700
800-492-7122 Ext. 3700
Michael.Jackson@senate.state.md.us

Budget and Taxation Committee

Subcommittees

Chair, Pensions

Public Safety, Transportation, and
Environment

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

District Office
250 Merrimac Court
Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678

TESTIMONY - SENATE BILL 464

URBAN STATE HIGHWAYS – SPEED LIMITS – EXCEPTIONS

JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 15, 2024

Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Committee Members:

Senate Bill 464 is a very straightforward bill that simply authorizes the Maryland State Highway Administration to reduce the speed limit on an Urban Highway by up to 5 miles per hour without a traffic or engineering study.

This piece of legislation is a part of the State Highway Administration's Vision Zero initiative which holds the noble aim of eliminating pedestrian and traffic fatalities. Presently, traffic studies are required to reduce speed limits and it often takes quite some time and that time could be a matter of life and death in certain circumstances where highway uses (and particularly speed limits) no longer correspond with the amount of vehicle and pedestrian traffic that they handle.

It's common knowledge that vehicle speed is directly related to crash severity and this bill just aims to give MDOT another tool in their toolbox to help save lives on our highways.

For the reasons listed above, I ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 464.