



MARYLAND
Association of
COUNTIES

Senate Bill 943

Vehicle Laws – Bus Obstruction Monitoring Systems (Better Bus Service Act of 2024)

MACo Position: **SUPPORT**

To: Judicial Proceedings Committee

Date: March 6, 2024

From: Sarah Sample

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) **SUPPORTS** SB 943. This bill expands, statewide, the authority of a county to install and manage bus lane monitoring systems. It also clarifies acceptable and prohibited activities in designated bus lanes as well as the designated bus stops and curb spaces.

SB 943 is enabling legislation, providing counties with an additional tool in maintaining motor vehicle compliance and safety in neighborhoods and communities. This opportunity also helps counties enhance the reliability and safety of public transportation for residents. With an automated option for enforcing motor vehicle laws and violations, there is great potential to divert costs associated with law enforcement personnel, who would typically be tasked with motor vehicle monitoring. These savings can be reinvested in other areas, while maintaining compliance and safety in neighborhoods via the automated monitoring system.

Counties welcome the additional means to provide the accommodations necessary to maintain safe streets and dependable transportation for all and doing so in a way that is sensitive to the constant demands on taxpayer dollars and county budgets. For these reasons, MACo urges a **FAVORABLE** report for SB 943.