

Support for HB 440 – Memorial Sign for Victims of Traffic Violence on MD 210

Ron Weiss, Fort Washington

Dear Chair Korman and Members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee,

I live near MD 210, and it is my main street. Every day, I share this highway with 80,000 vehicles, some of which are driven by people who take reckless and dangerous risks. My goal, like so many others who travel this road, is simple: I just want to get home safely.

MD 210 has long been recognized as one of Maryland's deadliest highways, with 95 recorded fatalities in recent years. The 2008 tragedy in Accokeek, where illegal drag racing claimed eight lives in an instant, is a heartbreaking reminder of how dangerous this road can be. Speeding, reckless driving, and inadequate enforcement continue to make this corridor a threat to residents and commuters alike.

A memorial sign will serve as more than just a tribute to those who have lost their lives—it will be a call to action, a stark reminder for every driver that their choices on the road matter. Other safety campaigns have shown that visible reminders influence behavior and encourage responsibility. Approving HB 440 is a chance for Maryland to show its commitment to preventing further tragedies and honoring the families forever impacted by these losses.

Since 2017, the MD 210 Traffic Safety Committee has worked tirelessly to push for solutions—speed enforcement, public education, and legislative action. Progress has been made, but we cannot afford to slow down. A memorial sign would reinforce the message that safety must remain a priority.

I urge you to support and advance HB 440 to ensure that the victims of MD 210 are never forgotten and that their memories drive us toward lasting change.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ron Weiss

MD 210 Traffic Safety Committee Founding Member