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# WRAP

## WASHINGTON REGIONAL ALCOHOL PROGRAM

7900 Westpark Drive, Suite A550 ■ Tysons, VA 22102 ■ TEL 703.893.0461 ■ [www.wrap.org](http://www.wrap.org) ■ Email: [wrap@wrap.org](mailto:wrap@wrap.org)

January 31, 2025

Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee  
Maryland Senate  
Annapolis, Maryland

**Re.: Support of "Criminal Law – Manslaughter by Vehicle or Vessel – Increased Penalties," Senate Bill 364, Senator Bailey (R-Calvert & St. Mary's Counties)**

Dear Senators:

On behalf of the Maryland nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program's (WRAP) Board of Directors, staff, volunteers and the more than six-million Maryland residents we serve in the fight against drunk driving and underage drinking (including having served as project director of both Maryland's Checkpoint Strikeforce campaign and "Maryland Remembers" ceremony), I wanted to formally communicate to you **WRAP's unequivocal support for Senate Bill 364, "Criminal Law – Manslaughter by Vehicle or Vessel – Increased Penalties,"** Senator Bailey (R-Calvert & St. Mary's Counties).

*(The bill is identical to legislation which unanimously passed Maryland's Senate last year but languished in the House of Delegates' Judiciary Committee.)*

Succinctly, Senate Bill 364 – in an effort to counter existing Maryland sentencing guidelines for vehicular manslaughter which result in ineffectual, remarkably low imprisonment sentences -- increases the "maximum periods of imprisonment" for persons convicted of vehicular manslaughter including for those convicted of such and having been previously convicted of a number of crimes including driving under the influence of alcohol, driving while impaired by alcohol or driving while impaired by drugs or controlled dangerous substances (Maryland Transportation Section 21-902 [a][b][c] & [d]).

(over)

A coalition of diverse interests using effective education, innovative programs and targeted advocacy to end alcohol-impaired driving and underage drinking in the Washington, DC metro area.

A copy of WRAP's current financial statement is available by writing WRAP, 7700 Landburg Pike, Suite 201, Falls Church, VA 22041 or by calling 703.893.0461. Documents and information submitted under the MD OpenSource Solicitations Act are also available for the cost of postage and copies from the MD Society of State, Local, Municipal, and County, 4010 11th St., Suite 200, Arlington, VA 22204, 703.527.1111.



With nearly a quarter of Maryland's traffic fatalities involving impaired drivers (23%, Maryland Highway Safety Office, 2023), meaningful deterrents and penalties for persons driving negligently and causing either death or serious injury of another are both paramount and overdue.

As a means of better equating the sentence with the *lethal* crime, WRAP supports Senate Bill 364 and urges your consideration of again favorably reporting said legislation.

□□□□□

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration. I may be directly reached with any questions at either 703-893-0461 or at [kurt@wrap.org](mailto:kurt@wrap.org).

Cordially,



Kurt Gregory Erickson  
President