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Richard Keith Kaplowitz
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TESTIMONY ON HB#/0034- POSITION: FAVORABLE

Municipalities - Open Drainage Inlets - Required Grating Systems (Mason's Law)

TO: Chair Korman, Vice Chair Guyton, and members of the Environment and Transportation Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#/0034, Municipalities - Open Drainage Inlets - Required Grating Systems (Mason's Law)

This bill is being submitted to react to the tragic death of Mason Kearns in Mt. Airy, MD who was swept by a flash flood into a culvert and trapped. ¹

We can make these tragedies preventable by passing this bill to require a municipality to construct or install an approved grating system which places a cover over the opening of an open drainage inlet in order to allow stormwater runoff to enter the drainage inlet while preventing large debris from entering the drainage inlet; requiring the approved grating system be installed on a new or existing open drainage inlet within the municipality; etc.

We will honor Mason's memory and ensure no other child loses their life when measures exist to prevent it.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB#/0034.

¹ <https://www.wmar2news.com/news/region/carroll-county/mount-airy-acts-after-childs-death-in-flash-flood>