

Written Testimony in Support of SB0068
Mahasin S. El Amin, Esq.,
Clerk of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County

Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Mahasin El Amin, and I am the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County. I respectfully submit this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 0068 (SB0068), which seeks to incorporate motorcycle safety awareness into Maryland's motor vehicle education and examination process.

On April 22, 2025, at approximately 2:48 p.m., I received a phone call from my mother that no child ever wants to receive. She informed me that my father had been struck while riding his motorcycle on his way to pick up a prescription from Kaiser. My father was 76 and operating his 2010 Harley-Davidson touring motorcycle when a driver clipped him. That driver was later determined to be operating a vehicle on a suspended license.

As a result of the crash, my father's entire left side was broken, and he was unable to walk for eight weeks. Although I am thankful that my father survived, his recovery required months of physical rehabilitation and healing. Survival alone should not be the standard when discussing roadway safety. Receiving that call from my mother was one of the most difficult moments of my life.

Like many families affected by motorcycle crashes, I was left asking critical questions: Why was a vehicle driving so close to a motorcycle? Why was the speed sufficient to cause such devastating injuries? And most importantly, could this crash have been prevented through greater driver awareness and education?

SB0068 directly addresses these questions. By requiring motorcycle safety awareness to be included in Maryland's motor vehicle exams, this legislation ensures that drivers are educated, before they receive a license, about sharing the road with motorcyclists, maintaining safe distances, recognizing rider vulnerability, and understanding the potentially fatal consequences of distraction or inattention.

Motorcyclists do not have the same physical protection as occupants of passenger vehicles. SB0068 acknowledges this reality and places responsibility where it belongs, on

educating drivers to be more attentive, less distracted, and more protective of all roadway users.

Safer roads are not just a rider issue; they are a public safety issue. This bill establishes a preventative approach by addressing unsafe driving behaviors before crashes occur, rather than responding after families are already harmed.

I strongly support SB0068 and urge this committee to recognize its life-saving potential. By passing this bill, you can reduce preventable injuries, protect Maryland families, and create safer roadways for everyone who uses them.

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
Mahasin S. El Amin Esq.,
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Prince George's County