

My name is Bianca Floyd.

Donnell Floyd Jr. was my nephew.

I am submitting this text in support of **SB0068** which will promote driver awareness of motorcycle visibility, proper lane positioning, safe following distances around motorbikes, and methods to prevent crashes with motorcycles.

First, I'd like to note that my background is in public history, particularly the history of Prince George's County and the state of Maryland. This year we will be celebrating the 250th year of this nation's founding. The creation of roads during the colonial period in Maryland is of course, a major factor in the growth and prosperity of the state. It will continue to be. The method of transportation is different, but the objectives are the same.

One of the last conversations I had with my nephew was to encourage him to do more touring on his motorcycle. I had this vision that he would put a Go Pro camera on his helmet, and on his bike and share the best trails Maryland had to offer with the world, and then go see the US, and the world, if possible on two wheels. Of course, the state of Maryland has some exceptional places for motorcycle travel and tourism and I was a bit envious of the attention given to the Blue Ridge Parkway's "Tail of the Dragon" and all the attention given to Moab.

I talked to him about the bikers who travel around this country, and the world. I'm retired and YouTube is one of the ways I get to see places. He expressed an interest, but not yet. He had a family. He worked a full-time job. He was enjoying his life. I just assumed that one day he'd ride through Blue Ridge Parkway and film it for his aunt. I am watching bikers tour the world. Itchy Boots of the Netherlands who is in China. Joe Ryan, an Australian, who is in the U.S. posting videos from Washington State.

This bill will educate, promote and present the State of Maryland as a safe place to travel whether locally or statewide, by whatever mode of transportation you use. It says to the state, the country, and the world that we have transportation awareness, whether you are traveling on four wheels or two, and we welcome you to Maryland.

I grieve for my nephew, and yet when I watch my favorite riders like Joe Ryan or Noraly Schoenmaker (ItchyBoots) riding their motorcycles around the world, I think about him and I smile.

Passage of this bill, for me, is an indicator that we are transportation safety educated, responsible, and ready for bikers, whether you riding along the beltway or the Maryland Panhandle History Run out of Frederick, Maryland.

I ask for your support for this bill. Not just for the memory of my nephew, but for Maryland residents and for motorcycle riders, and tourists traveling on two wheels visiting our beautiful state. We want to be safe, aware and welcoming.