



# M a r y l a n d Troopers Association



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The Honorable Kumar P. Barve, Chair and Members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee

**RE: HB 130 Vehicle Laws – Move Over Safety Monitoring System – Authorization**

**POSITION: SUPPORT**

The Maryland Troopers Association (MTA) has a membership strength of approximately 2,629 members of which 1,120 are active sworn Troopers involved in traffic enforcement throughout the State of Maryland.

HB130 introduced by Del. Anne Healey and Del. Dana Stein will authorize law enforcement agencies and other listed emergency services vehicles to utilize new technology for the purpose of recording a motor vehicle committing a violation relating to the operation of a motor vehicle on approach of an emergency vehicle.

Compliance of current law is low and there is little enforcement. Officers who are stopped with violators or are assisting disabled motorists are usually unable to leave those situations to chase down additional violators. Officers may also be occupied with crash investigations and assisting other emergency personnel. Enforcement by using stopping teams requires additional manpower which can only be used sparingly due to limited resources. Public information and media campaigns have been largely unsuccessful in changing public compliance. Generally, the public is uninformed regarding our state's Move Over Law or routinely violates it because there is no perception of enforcement and penalty.

The newly developed technology combines multiple video and radar capability to provide clear and convincing evidence of Move Over violations. Because the system is automated, law enforcement does not have to leave the scene of an incident. The violations are automatically recorded and transmitted for review.

Far too many of our State Troopers and emergency services personnel are seriously injured or killed while performing their required duties. Automated enforcement of this state's Move Over Law combined with a strong public information and education will provide a general deterrence for all motorists and help protect those who are sworn to serve and protect our citizens.

Therefore, the Maryland Troopers Association strongly supports HB130 and request a favorable report.

Brian Blubaugh  
President  
Maryland Troopers Association

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