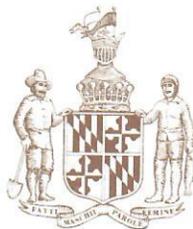


ANNE HEALEY
Legislative District 22
Prince George's County

Chair
Rules and Executive
Nominations Committee

Environment and Transportation
Committee

Chair
Local Government and
Bi-County Issues Subcommittee



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Annapolis Office
The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 361
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
301-858-3961 · 410-841-3961
800-492-7122 Ext. 3961
Fax 301-858-3223 · 410-841-3223
Anne.Healey@house.state.md.us

District Office
Hyattsville, Maryland
Phone/Fax 301-779-4515

February 6, 2020

House Bill 130

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

HB 130 is the rational next step in the development of Maryland's Move Over law, which requires drivers to move over a lane , or slow down when approaching certain emergency vehicles stopped along the roadside with flashing lights.

Delegate Stein and I are bringing this Bill before the committee to strengthen the enforcement of this life-saving law. Through the use of new technology, including cameras, radar and a comprehensive enforcement program, the provisions of HB 130 will address the needs of nearly any law enforcement agency or emergency vehicle.

This Bill would establish a framework for using "Move Over Safety Monitoring Systems" throughout the state. It would enable a state or local law enforcement agency, local volunteer fire company, rescue squad, fire department or ambulance service to install a Move Over Safety Monitoring System. Specified emergency or police vehicles could use the new technology to capture visual evidence of a violation of our existing "Move Over" law.

HB 130 is important because of challenges with enforcement of the Move Over Law. An article in the Baltimore sun in 2019 reviewed the effectiveness of the Move Over Law after 12 months in place. Check this link for details:

<https://www.baltimoresun.com/opinion/editorial/bs-ed-1002-move-over-law-20191001-sixokikskbgm5kzsvz6gkamzdu-story.html>

This type of proposed Move Over Safety Monitoring System has been tested in small groups in Ohio. Also, in an article by The Denver Channel, a fourteen hour test of their Move Over Visual Monitoring System recorded 545 violations. The testing found that police cruisers were subject to one Move Over violation per minute, and tow truck operators nearly two per minute. Here is that link: <https://www.thedenverchannel.com/traffic/driving-you-crazy/driving-you-crazy-new-camera-system-could-ticket-drivers-for-not-following-the-move-over-law>

Until recently, there have been very limited ways to enforce Move Over laws. The use of this new technology can mean the difference between life and death for first responders and highway workers. Authorizing the use of "Move Over Safety Monitoring Systems" would give law enforcement the help they need to make our law more effective.