



Delegate Barve, Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee

Dear Delegate Barve:

The Montgomery County Civic Federation, Inc. (MCCF) represents about 150,000 Montgomery County residents. The MCCF Executive Committee has considered HB702. Vehicle Laws - Rules of the Road - Lane Changes. The Committee recommends a favorable report on the legislation for the following reasons:

This legislation would clarify that a motor vehicle operator would have to use his turn signals to indicate an intent to change lanes on a road. This is a correction of a drafting error that occurred in 1977 leaving Maryland the only state in the United States that does not require signaling when changing lanes.

This legislation will reduce the number of accidents on our highways and multilane roads. This in turn will reduce the time our residents spend traveling on our roads.

In January of this year we had a fatal pedestrian accident on MD 355 Rockville Pike involving a car that did not signal when changing lanes.

The mission of the MCCF is to preserve and improve the quality of life for all current and future residents of Montgomery County, Maryland. Since its founding in 1925, the volunteers of the MCCF have committed themselves to providing an effective citizen voice to government policy makers, both elected and appointed.

The Civic Federation is a not-for-profit, county-wide umbrella group designed to promote cooperation, education and effectiveness of civic and community associations in Montgomery County.

It addresses a wide range of concerns in transportation, land use, environment, education, budget and finance, public safety, and ethics. With its strength of numbers and thoroughness of its deliberations, the Federation influences county policy and balances the activities of vested county pressure groups.

Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

Jerry Garson, Chair Transportation Committee MCCF