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**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT ON BEHALF OF
OCEAN CITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

In support of:
HB 1493 Vehicle Laws – Special Event Zone Prohibitions in Worcester County

The Ocean City Development Corporation (OCDC) representing over 150 members in the downtown Ocean City area. On behalf of those members, I am writing to express our SUPPORT of House Bill 1493 Vehicle Laws- Special Event Zone. The bill would give more authority to our police Department and allied forces to enforce stricter penalties during special events. These penalties would create a strong deterrent for individuals who may otherwise pose threat to public safety with reckless or aggressive driving.

Downtown Ocean City and all of Ocean City are negatively impacts by the traffic violators during these events. While our local police department works adamantly with state and local allied agencies, the lawlessness and disorderly conduct during certain motor event weekends has reached a point of critical concern. Last year we made progress in our enforcement, with legislation directed toward speeding. Despite this measure, our concern remains of unaddressed acts of recklessness, which endanger thousands of event spectators, non- event guests and our residents.

During these motor events there is a clear disregard for our police department and this law will give our officers real tools that are that are needed to help restore safety. We need your support.

OCDC has been a part of the Motor Event Task Force and is working with police, businesses, and citizens to ensure the public's safety during these events.

For the aforementioned reason, the Ocean City Development Corporation respectfully requests your support for HB 1493.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions regarding the position of the Ocean City Development Corporation at 410-289-7739

Sincerely,

Glenn Irwin
Executive Director, OCDC

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