

# Worcester County Sheriff's Office

*Matthew Crisafulli*  
Sheriff



*Mark C. Titanski*  
Chief Deputy

March 5, 2020

**To: Chairman Kumar-Barve and Committee Members,**

**As the Sheriff of Worcester County, I am honored to present my full support of House Bill 1493– Vehicle Laws – Special Event Zones.**

Each year our resort town of Ocean City has several major events that bring additional visitors into our county. These events which are all sanctioned by Ocean City, with the exception of H2O International, result in an exponential influx of vehicle and pedestrian traffic within Worcester County. This causes many additional obstacles for our law enforcement officers on a countywide level. These obstacles include major traffic issues, with a large number of traffic violations to include: reckless driving, spinning of tires, drag racing, speeding and reckless driving. All of these offenses, particularly with the large volume of visitors and pedestrians, cause major public safety issues, for our law enforcement officers, as well as our residents and visitors.

These potential obstacles not only affect Ocean City, but Worcester County as a whole, due to the fact that majority of these vehicles must pass through Worcester County before arriving in Ocean City. Additionally, these special events and related traffic issues often spill out into the West Ocean City and Berlin area, as well as Routes 50, 90, 610, 611, 113 and 589.

The Worcester County Sheriff's Office is committed to the safety of all who reside in and visit our county. These heavily-populated events and the corresponding traffic violations severely increase the likelihood of vehicle related accidents where someone may be injured, or even worse, killed.

**“Proud to Protect, Ready to Serve”**

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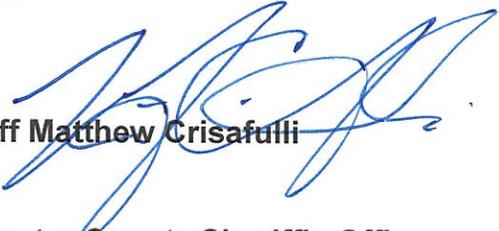


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If this important bill passes, House Bill 1493 would provide additional leverage for our law enforcement officers in an effort to protect the residents and visitors in our county. This bill is paramount for the safety and security of tens of thousands of people and our many law enforcement resources within Worcester County.

Thank you once again for providing me the opportunity to speak on behalf of this very important Bill.

I, respectfully request that this Committee provide House Bill 1493 with a favorable report.

  
Sheriff Matthew Crisafulli

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