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Dear Senator Waldstreicher,

Thank you for allowing us to be here today to speak on this important life saving matter. I am here today in support of putting up Highway Electronic messages of suicide prevention, Bill 800. When a person is distraught to the point of taking their own life they forget in the moment that

they matter, that there are people who love them and that they count. Our belief is that these signs will remind a desperate soul in that life altering moment that they are loved, wanted and that they matter.

I am from Severna Park and have pretty much grown up here. Sadly, we are no stranger to the suicide epidemic. My daughter has lost several friends to suicide. It's so hard to look at the children so lost and sad in the days and the months as years that ensue. Our school has been nicknamed Suicide High. I know people that have lost husbands to suicide. For me, there is nothing worse than having to look a

Mom in the eye that has lost her child and your heart just sinks and you feel so helpless. I never want to see that pain in anyone's face again. The loss of a loved one and the heartbreak of the family that cries out for them is further compounded by the devastation of the community at large. It's time for a change, a ripple effect in our community, county and state. To change lives forever. By saving just one life you are changing the lives of entire communities and generations to come. To say that we care. Our Senators care, Our legislators care and our highway safety team cares. Maryland cares about it's citizens.

By passing this bill, allows the power to save lives thus allowing for new legacies for not only the here and now but for generations to come. Please vote for Senate Bill 800 and raise the bar and be known as the senator that cares. This could set a precedent that stretches beyond our county and our state and toward our nation as a whole.

Sincerely,

Barbara Orcutt-Vrable