



Support SB199 Safe Passing of Cyclists

Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County
P.O. Box 208, Arnold, MD 21012 www.bikeaaa.org

Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

January 29, 2020

RE: SUPPORT Senate Bill 199

Dear Chairman and Members of the Committee,

I am a resident of District 33, president of Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis and Anne Arundel County (“BikeAAA”), Chair of the Anne Arundel County Bicycle Advisory Commission and was appointed by Governor Hogan to the 2017 Maryland Bicycle Safety Task Force.. On behalf of BikeAAA and it’s more than 900 members, I support Senate Bill 199. This bill strengthens the current 3 foot passing law by addressing the current exception for narrow roads which dangerously allows drivers to ignore safe passing of cyclists where it is most needed – on narrow roads. Moreover, this bill aligns safe practice, actual practice and Maryland Law and is similar to a recent law enacted by the state of Delaware.

This was recommended by the Maryland Bicycle Safety Task Force which I served on. **The identical bill unanimously passed the House in 2019.**

How this bill promotes safety and benefits drivers and cyclists	Current Law	This Bill	Benefit
Drivers must legally give cyclists 3 feet on all roads	NO	YES	Cyclist Safety
Vehicles can legally and safely pass cyclists on all roads	NO	YES	Vehicle Throughput
Aligns Maryland Law with SAFE and ACTUAL driver practice	NO	YES	Law Aligned with Safe Practice

Safe bicycling promotes health, reduces traffic, improves the environment and stimulates economic growth.

Sincerely,

Jon Korin
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