

Worcester County Sheriff's Office

Matthew Crisafulli
Sheriff



Mark C. Titanski
Chief Deputy

March 4, 2020

Judicial Proceedings Committee
Attn: Chairman William C. Smith Jr.
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 East Wing
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairman Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee:

As the Sheriff of Worcester County, I am honored to present my full support of Senate Bill 878 – 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”

Worcester County Sheriff's Office
One West Market Street, Room 1001
Snow Hill, MD 21863
410-632-1111- phone / 410-632-3070- fax
www.WorcesterSheriff.com

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If this important bill passes, Senate Bill 878 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 Senate Bill 878 with a favorable report.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew Crisafulli".

Sheriff Matthew Crisafulli

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