



Maryland Association for Justice, Inc.

2021 Position Paper

HB 964

Vehicle Laws - Driving in Right-Hand Lanes - Interstate Highways in Rural Areas

FAVORABLE

The Maryland Association for Justice, Inc. (MAJ) represents over 1,200 trial attorneys throughout the state of Maryland. MAJ advocates for the preservation of the civil justice system and the protection of the rights of consumers. A significant portion of MAJ members represent individuals harmed in vehicle accidents in order to make them whole after injury.

MAJ supports HB 964 solely from the perspective of vehicle and traffic safety. This bill does not alter auto tort provisions nor driver liabilities; however, MAJ supports the bill because we believe it will lead to safer driving in general.

HB 964 would require that the driver of a vehicle traveling slower than the general speed of traffic on interstate highways located in rural areas to drive the vehicle in the right-hand lanes. Too often accidents occur when individuals attempt to pass slower moving traffic on the right. Requiring slower moving traffic to maintain their lane position on the right of roadways and allowing the passage of traffic to the left only provides for safer rural road in Maryland.

For these reason MAJ respectfully urges a favorable report on HB 964