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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

January 21, 2021

Honorable Chairman, Delegate Kumar P. Barve

Vice Chair, Delegate Dana Stein

Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee

Re: HB- 404 -Vehicle Laws - Speed Monitoring Systems - Child Care Centers

I am pleased to reintroduce HB 404 formally known as HB1180. The purpose of this bill is to authorize the placement and use of speed monitoring systems within a certain radius of child care facilities. This bill is essential to ensuring that all vehicles are operated at a safe speed when passing by child care centers. Countless children have been killed by dangerous and reckless drivers who give little attention to their surroundings. Pedestrian safety is an issue that affects everyone in Maryland; young and old. The children at our daycare centers are some of the youngest children that are crossing streets and exposed to traffic. I believe it is important to allow local jurisdiction to implement speed cameras within the radius of child care centers when they deem it appropriate. HB 404 will ensure the safety and security of toddler pedestrians and those who work at daycares.

Parents deserve the assurance of knowing their children will be safe while attending daycare. The state of Maryland will benefit greatly from this bill as we will see fewer injuries and fatalities near daycare centers. Parents and guardians will find peace when they drop their child off at daycare. There is no doubt that speed cameras help enforce traffic laws that can keep children safe from harm. Please join me in protecting the next generation from danger and please give a **favorable** report to House Bill 404.

Sincerely,

Wanika B. Fisher

Wanika B. Fisher Esq.

Maryland State Delegate – District 47B