



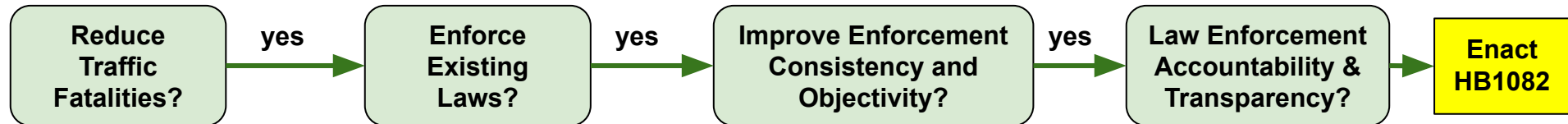
Should Delegates support HB 1082, Enforcement and Use of Real-Time Digital Spotters?

*“The problem of **distracted driving** has become increasingly prevalent during the past decade in Maryland and across the United States due in large part to the explosion in use of handheld communication devices, such as cell phones and other electronic devices... over **53,000** distracted driving crashes occur on Maryland roads each year.”*

Maryland Highway Safety Plan (FY2020)



Shawn Durkin, killed July 15, 2020, leaving behind his wife, Theresa, and four children



DD Contributes to:

- 300 Fatalities
- 16,500 Injuries
- 38,800 Property Damage Crashes
- > \$1,000,000 lost wages, property damages, insurance claims

Distracted Driver Laws:

- Transportation § 21-1124 Use of Handheld Telephones
 - Transportation § 21-1124.1 Reading, Writing, or Sending Text Messages
 - Transportation § 21-1124.1,2,3
- “Jake’s Law”** Crash resulting in death or serious injury guilty is a misdemeanor on a conviction, up to 1 yr imprisonment, \$5,000 fine

High Visibility Enforcement:

- A “spotter” officer visually identifies driver DD statute violations
- “Spotter” officer radios ahead to another officer providing driver vehicle identification
- DD HVE is a Maryland SHSP Program Area, providing grants to 47 police departments for enforcement

Objective Enforcement:

- Camera-based “spotter” augments HVE operations
- Camera-based “spotter” removes subjectivity and potential observing bias from violation detection
- Camera-based “spotter” will provide calibrated and traceable performance data & address privacy and equity concerns