



Montgomery County

Office of Intergovernmental Relations

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HB 564

DATE: March 30, 2021

SPONSOR: Montgomery County Delegation

ASSIGNED TO: Judicial Proceedings

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POSITION: SUPPORT

Montgomery County – Automated Traffic Enforcement – Implementing Agency MC 4-21

House Bill 564 is enabling legislation to allow Montgomery County to transfer the administration of its speed camera, red light camera, and school bus safety camera programs from the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD) to the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT). If such a transfer would take place, the bill requires that an MCDOT employee – and not an officer from MCPD – sign the required statement on a speed camera violation citation.

Under the State Transportation Article, § 21-809, speed camera use is allowed on residential streets with speed limits of 35 mph or less and in school zones, and further specifies that automated traffic enforcement programs be administered by a law enforcement agency of a local political subdivision. Apart from Baltimore City, which placed its speed camera program under the City's transportation department but requires that all speed camera violation citations be signed by a police officer, speed camera programs across the State are administered by police departments. MCPD also operates red light cameras at intersections throughout the County and enforces school bus safety camera violations on Montgomery County school buses.

The County supports House Bill 564. If enacted, it would allow the County to realign the administration of this program, should it decide to do so, after evaluating the pros and cons of such a change related to the County's Vision Zero goals and efficient use of resources.