



Support SB495 Must Appear Violation

*Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County
P.O. Box 208, Arnold, MD 21012 www.bikeaaa.org*

Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

February 11, 2021

RE: SUPPORT Senate Bill 495

Dear Chairman and Members of the Committee,

I am a resident of District 33, president of Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis and Anne Arundel County (“BikeAAA”), Chair of the Anne Arundel County Bicycle Advisory Commission, Member of the 2017 Maryland Bicycle Safety Task Force and avid Maryland cyclist for over 20 years. On behalf of BikeAAA and it’s more than 1,000 members, I support SB495. This bill requires a driver who kills someone through reckless or negligent driving to appear in court. There are gaps in current Maryland traffic laws that consider only the degree of negligence and do not consider the consequence to the victim. This law fills one of those gaps and thereby strengthens deterrence while providing an increased measure of justice for the victim’s family.

This bill also complements other important gap-filling legislation in the current session such as SB293 Vulnerable Road Users which raises the level of care when drivers are in proximity to pedestrians, wheelchair users, bicyclists, motorcyclists and others lawfully using or crossing our roads.

Please support SB495 to improve safety and justice while reducing fatalities on Maryland roads.

Sincerely,

Jon Korin
President, Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County
Tel: 443-685-4103