

**Bill Number: HB 932**

**Edward J. Coyne, Deputy State's Attorney for Carroll County  
SUPPORT**

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF EDWARD J. COYNE,  
DEPUTY STATE'S ATTORNEY FOR CARROLL COUNTY  
IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 932  
DRUGGED DRIVING CDS TESTING-  
AUTHORIZED POLICE OFFICERS**

I write in support HB 932 because it would enhance public safety by getting more drug impaired drivers off the road. Over the last decade, drug use and opiate use has skyrocketed. Over the last several years, there has been an average of almost 150 fatal collisions and over 2000 non-fatal injury collisions per year as a result of drunk or drugged driving in Maryland. Under the Current Law, only a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) is permitted to request consent from a suspected drug impaired driver for a blood sample to test for drugs. Under this bill, additional officers, who have completed training under the Advanced Roadside Impairment Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) course, would also be permitted to request consent from a suspected drug impaired driver for a blood sample to test for drugs. There are only 171 DREs in the State of Maryland and DREs can't respond to every case where there is a suspected drugged driver. There are over 1000 ARIDE certified officers throughout the State of Maryland and this bill would expand the number of permitted officers who could request a blood sample from suspected drug impaired drivers. The blood sample is critical objective evidence to show whether a suspect was driving while impaired by drugs. This bill would increase public safety and justice by permitting more officers to request a blood sample from suspected drug impaired drivers.

The Carroll County State's Attorney's Office joins the Maryland State's Attorneys' Association in requesting that this committee give HB 932 a favorable review.