CHARLOTTE CRUTCHFIELD

Legislative District 19
Montgomery County

Judiciary Committee

Subcommittees

Civil Law and Procedure

Chair, Family and Juvenile Law



Annapolis Office

The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 226
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3485 · 301-858-3485
800-492-7122 Ext. 3485
Charlotte.Crutchfield@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES Annapolis, Maryland 21401

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Written Testimony in Support of House Bill 231 Montgomery County-Automated Traffic Enforcement-Implementing Agency

What is HB231?

This bill is enabling legislation which provides the Montgomery County Council with the authority to transfer the Montgomery County Automated Traffic Enforcement Unit, which administers the speed and red-light cameras, from the county Police Department (MCP) to the county's Department of Transportation (MCDOT).

A Favorable Report is Requested:

This legislation increases public safety and creates a more equitable framework for traffic enforcement by:

- Limiting the types of traffic stops that MCP may conduct.
- Reducing citizen contact and the possible escalated interactions of those contacts with MCP.
- Increasing organizational efficiency by housing this responsibility with MCDOT which has a focused mission on reducing accidents and fatalities through "Vision Zero".
- Allows MCP to focus on other more pressing duties outside of minor traffic stops.
- Removes human bias at the time a violation takes place.

Support:

Both the Montgomery County Executive and the Montgomery County Council (unanimously) support the bill.

I respectfully request a favorable report for House Bill 231.

Sincerely,
Delegate Charlotte Crutchfield