



We're leading the movement to build a Bicycle-Friendly America for Everyone

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February 1, 2022

Dear Environment and Transportation Committee:

I am writing in support of the Vision Zero Implementation Act of 2022, which has a hearing this Thursday, February 3rd. League of American Bicyclists (League) is a national non-profit dedicated to building a Bicycle Friendly America for everyone. In Maryland, the League has recognized 7 Bicycle Friendly Communities, 27 Bicycle Friendly Businesses, and 3 Bicycle Friendly Universities.

Since 2008, the League has regularly ranked states based on the actions of their legislature, Governor, and state agencies. Maryland has typically been ranked in the upper half of states, breaking the top 10 four times. [1] Maryland has typically outperformed its federal data on rates of biking to work and bicycle safety through acting to address those issues. Our last report card recognized numerous actions showing Maryland's attempts to improve bicycling in the state. [2]

With the Vision Zero Implementation Act of 2022, Maryland's legislature has another opportunity to provide a leading example and address the state's long-standing bicycle and pedestrian safety issues. The Vision Zero Implementation Act will:

- Assess each individual fatal pedestrian and bicyclist fatality occurring on Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) roadways within 6 months after the crash;
- Identify engineering countermeasures consistent with Safe System approach;
- Consider the countermeasures that are appropriate for the highway context (e.g., urban, rural, modes of travel); and
- Publicly post the assessment to SHA web site.

The Vision Zero Implementation Act recognizes that it is the responsibility of the policymakers and agencies to provide a safe system for road users. It provides a measure of justice and response for people killed and their families by making sure their deaths can result in permanent changes that improve safety. It is consistent with the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Roadway Safety Strategy and will serve as an example of what state legislatures can do to ensure safety is a priority. The League enthusiastically supports it and urges *favorable consideration* of House Bill 254 by the Committee.

Please contact me at ken@bikeleague.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Ken McLeod
Policy Director

[1] <https://bikeleague.org/sites/default/files/2019%20BFS%20historical%20ranking.pdf>

[2] https://bikeleague.org/sites/default/files/BFS%20Report%20Card_2019_Maryland.pdf