

Chairman Barve, Vice Chair Stein and members of the Environment and Transportation Committee. My name is Karen Coakley and I am President of the Beltsville Citizen's Association. I want to Thank Senator Beidle for introducing SB 612 Street Racing, Exhibition Driving and Noise Abatement – Prohibited Acts Enforcement and Penalties. I appeared before you in support Delegate Mary Lehman's bill HB 102 <https://www.wbaltv.com/article/downtown-baltimore-drivers-donuts-burnouts/39620138>

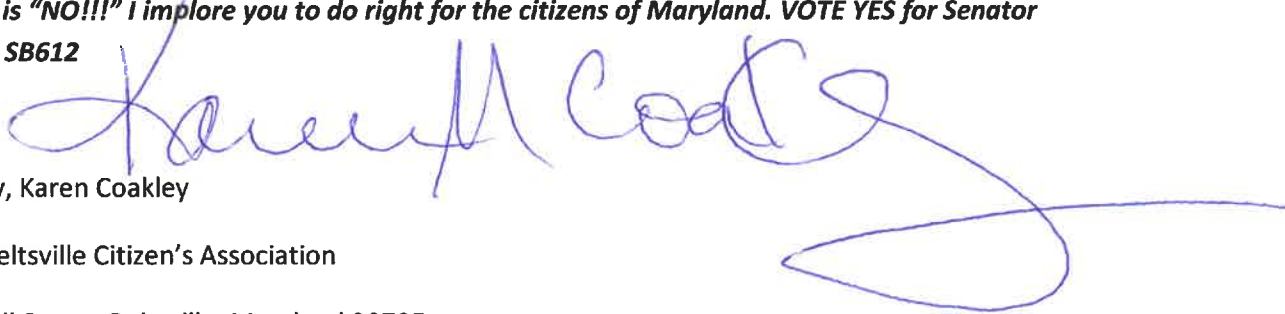
<https://wtop.com/prince-georges-county/2022/04/crowd-at-car-meetup-attack-and-vandalize-prince-georges-co-police-cruiser/>

*****Does someone have to DIE.....before you do right by the Citizens of Maryland!!!! These racing parties CLOSE roads.....These racing parties cause delays for fire trucks, ambulances, police responding to emergencies!!! They delay John Q. Public taking a loved one to the hospital. What where the participants planning to do when they opened the gas cap of the Prince George's County Police officers cruiser 22 seconds into the video???? I am pretty sure they were not going to fill his tank with gasoline....Heaven only knows what they were planning to do. I am begging you to pass SB612

Let me paint a picture for you..... You are outside taking a walk and a swarm of bees starts buzzing around you. Clearly this creates some knee jerk reactions. Now let's pick up the pace a bit. You are driving on the highway going 60 miles an hour and a swarm of 50 plus+++ cars come buzzing around you at excessive speeds. The drivers are cutting in and out in front of you beside you etc...How are you going to react? Do you hit your breaks? Do you slow down? Then what happens to the cars behind you? Split second reactions driving 60 + miles an hour can have consequences.

Picture number 2 you are taking a family member to the hospital. You are driving on the inner loop of I-95 near College Park when all of a sudden traffic comes to a standstill. You are probably thinking there is an accident up ahead. **WRONG!!! FYI the interstate is closed because those 50plus+++ cars I was telling you about have now decided to closed the inner loop of the beltway so they can do figure"8"'s in the middle of the beltway.** Your arrival at the hospital is delayed not because of an accident. You are delayed so someone can do figure "8"'s in the middle of the beltway!!! This actually happened to a Beltsville resident last spring.

Picture number 3. What happens when first responders, ambulance, firetrucks and the police are also stuck in this traffic??? Stuck in traffic for someone to perform stunts!!! Stunts are being performed as entertainment for the spectators. Spectators add to the congestion. Yes there are people who follow the stunt drivers and racing parties for entertainment. In an emergency situation every second matters. **Is someone's entertainment more important than someone's LIFE??? Be honest with yourself. You know the answer is "NO!!!" I implore you to do right for the citizens of Maryland. VOTE YES for Senator Beidle's bill SB612**



Respectfully, Karen Coakley

President Beltsville Citizen's Association

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