



Larry Hogan
Governor
Boyd K. Rutherford
Lt. Governor
James F. Ports, Jr.
Secretary

January 20, 2022

The Honorable Kumar Barve
Chairman, House Environment and Transportation Committee
251 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Letter of Support – House Bill 105 – Motor Vehicles – Operation When Approaching Disabled Vehicles

Dear Chairman Barve and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) supports House Bill 105 as it would add an additional level of safety for Maryland’s roadway users.

House Bill 105 would require drivers to either change lanes or slow their speed when approaching a disabled vehicle, when displaying certain signals, on a highway. The MDOT State Highway Administration (SHA) has historically worked with other highway safety entities, such as law enforcement, emergency services, and the private sector, to advocate for the importance of Maryland’s “Move Over Law”. House Bill 105 seeks to impose similar standards, requiring drivers to either “move over” or to make their best effort to “move over” when approaching a disabled vehicle. In 2020, the MDOT SHA recorded 10 pedestrian fatalities on roadways due to disabled vehicles. The MDOT SHA is committed to achieving the statewide goal of reaching zero fatalities on Maryland’s roadways. In enacting this requirement, the State would be helping to further highway users, including disabled motorists.

For these reasons, the Maryland Department of Transportation respectfully requests the Committee grant House Bill 105 a favorable report.

Respectfully Submitted,

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