

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

February 17, 2022

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr. Chairman, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee 2 East Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Letter of Information – Senate Bill 520 – Motor Vehicles – Speed Limits – Establishment and Enforcement

Dear Chairman Smith and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) takes no position on Senate Bill 520 but offers the following information for the Committee's consideration.

Senate Bill 520 allows Baltimore City to alter the speed for traveling on any highway under its jurisdiction without performing an engineering or traffic study. Currently, in Baltimore City and the other 23 jurisdictions, State and local governments can change speed limits on highways under their respective jurisdiction only after completing an engineering or traffic study that conforms with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

The MDOT State Highway Administration (SHA) encourages all jurisdictions to complete the appropriate engineering or traffic studies before changing speed limits on highways.

The Maryland Department of Transportation respectfully requests the Committee consider this information when deliberating Senate Bill 520.

Respectfully Submitted,

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