



Roderick Howard
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Mothers Against Drunk Driving- Mid Atlantic

SB 653

March 3 ,2022

Hello Committee Members,

Thank you for your time today to share with you my testimony regarding HB 557.

As you know, much too often we experience life changing tragedies on Maryland State Highways due to individuals choosing to drink and drive.

In a recent study, it was found that Drunk Driving is the leading killer on highways in the state of Maryland. In 2019, there were more than 160 individuals who lost their lives due to this 100% preventable crime of Drunk Driving. All of which can be decreased, if ALL Drunk Driving Offenders were given the ignition interlock without any avoidance. While Maryland sets current conditions regarding PBJ, too many times there are situations where not all participants are required to add this behavior changing technology to their vehicles.

Out of the states with mandatory Interlock laws, there has been a substantial decrease in deaths for every 100,000 citizens each year. As a Leader for Mothers Against Drunk Driving in the state of Maryland and a committed citizen, this is very important to me.

At MADD, our goal is to work towards Zero deaths, zero injuries and zero families impacted because of the negligence of one person choosing to drink and drive.

In closing, I ask that each committee member please consider passing legislation that would require ignition interlocks for all offenders which would ultimately allow for less injuries and more lives saved across our state.

Thank you delegates that support this bill and members of this committee. I ask that you please pass this bill and ensure that Noah's Law saves more lives.

Sincerely,

Roderick Howard
(Regional Executive Director, Mothers Against Drunk Driving Mid Atlantic)