

10 January, 2022

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Re: Vote for/ in favor of passing: 2022 – HB7 and SB25, Reckless and Negligent Driving – Sherry’s and Christopher’s Law - Death of Another – Must Appear Violation –

Dear Members of the Judiciary Senate Committee,

I write to urge you to vote in favor of passing **HB7/SB25**, Reckless and Negligent Driving- Sherry’s and Christopher’s Law - Death of Another – Must Appear Violation.

On 5 July, 2019 in Conowingo, MD, my brother, Thomas D. Zdon, was involved in a motorcycle accident that resulted in the death of his wife, Sherry Zdon, and the loss of his left arm (above the elbow) and left leg (above the knee). He was hit dead on by an oncoming vehicle while out for a drive in the late afternoon near the Conowingo Dam. My brother and his wife were flown to separate hospitals where his wife later died. My brother underwent numerous surgeries and amputations. Two passengers riding another single motorcycle were critically injured, and spent many days in hospitals as well.

We don’t have many details of the accident. My brother has no memory of that day. It was difficult to receive a copy of the initial police report. The report has only basic information. We finally obtained the additional detailed crash reconstruction report, which was vague as well. We have many questions and still no answers. We have not met or spoken to the party at fault. My brother retained a lawyer and has spoken to the insurance claims representatives, but we would like to know more. It has been over 2 ½ years since the accident, and we still have not heard from the Driver of the car that hit them. We have not even received a sympathy card or note of condolences in the mail.

Passing this bill would give my family the opportunity to meet the party at fault. It would allow the guilty party to be put into a court of law to receive some sort of judgement. I’d like to meet them to ask questions and I’d like them to meet my brother and see how our lives have drastically changed since that fatal day. Meeting them would possibly bring my family and brother some sort of closure. My family and I are not vengeful people. It pains us to think that someone, whom was responsible for killing someone, albeit an accident, might never have to go to court or be sentenced to at least a fine or traffic ticket. Meeting and facing the person whom they hurt and receiving judgement seems only sensible, just and fair.

Thank you for your consideration. Please vote in favor of passing HB7/SB25.

Sincerely,

Julie Zdon Sturek

Abate Member