



CARRINGTON & ASSOCIATES, LLC

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HB208 – Street Racing and Exhibition Driving - Prohibited Acts, Enforcement, and Penalties

FAVORABLE

Carrington & Associates, LLC, on behalf of Sensys Gatso, requests a **FAVORABLE** report for HB147. This bill alters certain penalties and the points assessments for certain motor vehicle violations related to participation in a race or speed contest; prohibiting a person from engaging in exhibition driving on any highway or private property that is used for driving by the public; prohibiting a person from attending as a spectator certain race or speed contests or any engagement of exhibition driving; and authorizing the towing and impounding of a vehicle involved in a race or speed contest or exhibition driving.

[Sensys Gatso](#) is the leading provider of automated traffic enforcement solutions with a strong global presence. Their mission is saving lives by changing the driving behavior of motorists. They are firmly committed to improving road safety by reducing vehicle speed and red light negation, by optimizing traffic flows and by contributing to a sustainable urban environment, always in close partnership with governments and other authorities all over the world.

The Sensys Gatso Group has more than 60 years' experience in developing and manufacturing innovative traffic enforcement, traffic management and managed services solutions, delivered to more than 70 countries worldwide. Since 1997, Sensys Gatso has supported the Swedish Government to implement their globally embraced road traffic safety project '**Vision Zero**', aiming to achieve a road traffic system with no fatalities or serious injuries.

Sensys Gatso listens closely to the concerns of the residents in the communities they serve all over the world. No can escape witnessing first-hand the incidents of dangerous speeding and/or

racing contests on our public roads be it Silver Spring, Mt. Rainer, Ocean City or any of the other Cities and Towns across the globe that Sensys Gatso monitors and services.

It appears this behavior was exacerbated by the COVID Pandemic when empty roadways presented additional opportunities for these illegal activities. Sensys Gatso believes that additional penalties must be imposed to stem the tide of this behavior that is a threat to human life. Accidents that will occur during these contests will likely lead to severe bodily injury and/or death. It is understood that those persons that commit these offenses are aware that their actions are illegal and dangerous, therefore, each subsequent repeat offense of this title should result in severe, graduated penalties to the offender.

We collectively applaud the City of Baltimore for passing legislation to ban people from stunt driving and racing. As City Resident Ms. Esther Causion so perfectly stated, **"No matter how good your driving skills are, no matter how fun it seems, there is at a lot of danger to that, and there is a place that you can go and become a racecar driver if that's what you want to do, but the streets of Baltimore is not a place for that."**

For the stated reasons, we ask for a **FAVORABLE** report on HB208.

Please feel free to contact Darrell Carrington at darrell.carrington@verizon.net, if you would like any additional information.