



TALBOT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



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Sheriff

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February 24, 2023

The Honorable Kumar Barve, Chair  
Environment and Transportation Committee  
House Office Building, Room 251  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Delegate Barve:

I am writing to you in support of House Bill 700 Talbot County – Speed Monitoring Systems – Intersection of Maryland Route 333 (Oxford Road) and Bonfield Avenue (“HB700”).

Currently, the Town of Oxford has speed limit signs posted to reduce vehicle speed from 50 mph to 35 mph just as you enter the Town and again to 25 mph just before you get to the Oxford firehouse. Just a few years ago, an individual driving his vehicle, in excess of 80 mph, hit and killed a local longtime volunteer in front of the firehouse. A speed camera would deter speeders and slow visitors/tourists down. Locals slow down, but people unfamiliar with the area fly by well into the Town. The Town of Oxford only has one way into Town.

The Oxford Police Department is currently understaffed and cannot have a designated officer sit in the affected area all day and night. I have never been a fan of placing speed cameras just anywhere, but this speed camera is necessary. My office attends Town meetings and communicates with the Town Manager on a regular basis. The Town's Chief of Police retired this week and my office is filling in until a new Chief is hired. Currently, Oxford has one officer, with my office filling the gaps.

Your support of HB 700 will ensure that the streets in the Town of Oxford are safe. More importantly, HB 700 would help to prevent any future tragic pedestrian accidents.

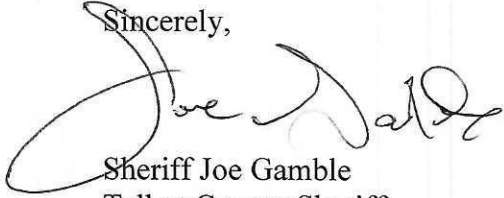
The Honorable Kumar Barve, Chair

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Thank you for your consideration and support of HB 700.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Gamble". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning of the first name.

Sheriff Joe Gamble  
Talbot County Sheriff

cc: Christopher Adams, Delegate, 37B  
Thomas Hutchison, Delegate, 37B  
Johnny Mautz, Senator, 37B  
Cheryl Lewis, Oxford Town Manager