

THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

(301) 952-3700 County Council

POSITION STATEMENT

HB208

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

Lehman, Pena-Melnyk, Addison, Amprey Attar, Atterbeary Bagnall, B. Barnes Barve, Boafo, Boyce, Cardin Chang, Charles, Crosby, Crutchfield, Ebersole Fennell, Foley, Forbes, Fraser-Hidalgo, Grammer, Guyton, Harris, Harrison, Healey, Hill, Holmes, D. Jones, Kaiser, Kipke, McCaskill, T. Morgan, Palakovich Carr, Patterson, Phillips, Ruth, Shetty Smith, Solomon, Stewart, Taveras, Taylor, Terrasa, Toles Turner, Valderrama, Vogel Watson, Williams, Wilson and Woods x

<u>POSITION</u> <u>SUPPORT</u>

HB 208- Altering 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 used for driving by the public; authorizing the towing and impounding of a vehicle involved in violations related to participation in a race, speed contest, or exhibition driving; providing penalties of imprisonment up to 1 year or a fine up to \$1,000, or both in the event of bodily injury; etc. Effective June 1, 2023.

This bill increases penalties and points assessments for violations related to participation in racing or speed contests. The bill also establishes a statewide prohibition on exhibition driving on any highway or private property that is used for driving by the general public. Additionally, the bill authorizes a police officer to order the towing and impounding of a vehicle that is driven in a race or speed contest or is the subject of an exhibition driving violation.

HB208 Has the potential to increase safety on State roads and Highways. Due to penalty provisions, minimal increase in general fund revenues and potential minimal increase in general fund expenditures. Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) revenues are not materially affected; the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) can implement the bill with existing resources. The Judiciary can handle the increased workload with existing resources. Enforcement can be handled with existing resources. Additionally, Prince Georges County Council has historically supported this measure in past sessions.

For the foregoing reasons, we believe the residents of Maryland will benefit greatly from the increased safety aspects of this measure. Prince George's County Council SUPPORTS this measure and respectfully requests a favorable report from this committee on this legislation.



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Prepared by: Green and Associates
On behalf of Prince George's County Council