

Wes Moore Governor Aruna Miller Lieutenant Governor Paul J. Wiedefeld Secretary

March 21, 2023

The Honorable Melony Griffith Chair, Senate Finance Committee 3 East, Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis MD 21401

RE: Letter of Information – Senate Bill 963 – Transportation – Study on Speed Limits – Interstate 495 and Connected Highways

Dear Chair Griffith and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) takes no position on Senate Bill 963 but offers the following information for the Committee's consideration.

Senate Bill 963 requires the MDOT to conduct a study on the implications of speed limit changes on highways connected to I-495, with a report to be submitted by December 31, 2023, on the findings and recommendations from the study.

To complete the required study, MDOT State Highway Administration (SHA) would need to review and evaluate the entire I-495 corridor, numerous interchanges, and connected highways. To complete this comprehensive study, it would require signification State resources, as well as consultant resources.

Due to the scope of the study, SHA anticipates needing additional time to complete the study; SHA would request that the reporting requirement be extended to June 1, 2024, to allow for the study to be completed and report be submitted.

The Maryland Department of Transportation respectfully requests the Committee consider this information as it deliberates on Senate Bill 963.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitch Baldwin
Acting Deputy Director
Office of Policy and Legislative Services
Maryland State Highway Administration
410-310-1056

Pilar Helm Director Office of Government Affairs Maryland Department of Transportation 410-865-1090