

March 23, 2023

Dear Senators,

My name is Rev. Dr. Robert L. Screen Sr., facilitator and creator of the 210 Traffic Safety Committee of Southern Prince George's County covering areas of Forest Heights, Fort Washington, and Accokeek Maryland.

I am a forty-five year resident of both Fort Washington and Accokeek communities and I submit this written testimony to request your urgent support of Bill HB-435 that will increase the number of speed cameras to 6 along the Indian Head Highway corridor.

As a forty-five year resident and leader of the 210 Traffic Safety Committee, I have personally witnessed the continuing decline in traffic and road safety along this beleaguered highway, which in the year 2017 the AAA Mid-Atlantic Traffic Safety Organization designated 210 Indian Head Highway as the "Highway of Death".

From the 15 year inclusive years from 2007 through 2022, 89 lives have been lost on a 14.3 mile span of highway, which includes the full one-way length of highway in Prince George's County. Last year alone, 10 lives were lost on this highway where speeding and reckless driving are common place. Speeds have been recorded at 168 mph, with speeds over 160 mph not uncommon.

The last collection of reported data we've retrieved from Automated Enforcement Division of Prince George's County, the months of April through November of 2022, showed over 684 recorded speed infractions over 90 mph and above.

With diminished Prince George's County Police cruiser presence, and **NO** enforcement presence from the Maryland State Troopers on this Maryland State Road, the current 3 speed cameras are the only 24/7 speed enforcement element this beleaguered community can rely upon for some semblance of consistent speed enforcement.

The community's desire for 10 cameras has been reduced to 6; I once again urgently request you to pass this Bill to help this **in need** community!

Respectfully Yours,

Rev. Dr. Robert L. Screen Sr.

Facilitator 210 Traffic Safety Committee