



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

February 15, 2023

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.  
Chair, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East, Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis MD 21401

**RE: Letter of Information – Senate Bill 249 – Motor Vehicle Administration - Driver Education Program - Cannabis**

Dear Chair Smith and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) takes no position on Senate Bill 249 but offers the following information for the Committee’s consideration.

Senate Bill 249 would require the MDOT Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) to include in its driver’s education curriculum information relating to the laws and risks of driving under the influence of cannabis.

The MVA oversees compliance with curriculum standards taught in the approximately 150 driver’s education schools across the State. The MVA develops a standardized curriculum for driver’s education schools in the State based on national standards and provides the 10 units in its curriculum for the public to view via its website.

Currently, Unit 9 of the driver’s education curriculum addresses impaired driving, including driving while under the effects of cannabis. The MVA’s inclusion of cannabis is part of an overall focus on making safe decisions behind the wheel of a motor vehicle and includes alcohol and both illegal and legal drug use in combination with driving. This portion of the curriculum includes discussion about the legal consequences of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol, including cannabis. Talking points also include how the effects of cannabis on the body impact driving abilities.

The Maryland Department of Transportation respectfully requests that the Committee consider this information when deliberating Senate Bill 249.

Respectfully submitted,

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