

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CONFERENCE
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Hon. Matthew J. Fader
Chief Justice

187 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
FROM: Legislative Committee
Suzanne D. Pelz, Esq.
410-260-1523
RE: Senate Bill 229
Vehicle Laws – Noise Abatement Monitoring Systems –
Authorization, Use and Penalties
DATE: February 1, 2023
(2/8)
POSITION: Oppose, as drafted

The Maryland Judiciary opposes Senate Bill 229, as drafted. This bill establishes that, under § 22-612 of the Transportation Article, a noise abatement monitoring system may be used in a local jurisdiction if its use is authorized by the governing body of the local jurisdiction by local law enacted after reasonable notice and a public hearing.

The Judiciary has concerns with Transportation Article § 22-612(f)(4). This provision requires court clerks' offices to send to local law enforcement agencies "evidence substantiating who was operating" vehicles when the alleged offender is shown not to have been the operator when the traffic violations were committed. This inappropriately puts courts in the position of assisting a prosecuting agency.

cc. Hon. Pamela Beidle
Judicial Council
Legislative Committee
Kelley O'Connor