



SafeRoadsMD

HB0451

**“Drunk Driving Offenses - Ignition
Interlock System Program
PLEASE SUPPORT**

**MARYLAND COALITION FOR ROADWAY SAFETY, INC.
URGES YOUR SUPPORT FOR HB0451**

February 6, 2023

TO:

Honorable Luke Clippinger, Chair
Honorable David Moon, Vice Chair
Members of the Maryland House of Delegates Judiciary Committee
House Office Building, Room 101
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

FROM:

John J. Seng, Chair
SafeRoadsMD - *Maryland Coalition For Roadway Safety, Inc.*
JohnJSeng@gmail.com (202) 468-7682
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/marylandcoalitionhighwaysafety>

My name is John Seng, volunteer Chair and founder of the *Maryland Coalition For Roadway Safety, Inc.*

Our 200+ member organization **strongly supports the enactment of HB0451, the “Drunk Driving Offenses - Ignition Interlock System Program” bill.**

We request that the Judiciary Committee submit a favorable review of this bill to vastly reduce DUI-related deaths on Maryland roads.

The Problem

When will this entirely preventable killing on Maryland roads stop, or even begin to decline? Drunk or otherwise inebriated drivers killed, on average, nearly 170 Marylanders annually from 2017-2021.
([ZeroDeathsMaryland - MDOT MVA HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICE.](#))

Two of three Marylanders will be “impacted” by an impaired driver in their lifetime. Approximately 40% of convicted impaired drivers in Maryland currently receive Probation Without Judgment, circumventing the requirement of Noah’s Law mandating ignition interlock. We know that 7,000 people lacking an ignition interlock system return to DUI.

Take This Necessary Step Towards A Solution

Enacting HB0451 strengthens Noah’s Law and fulfills the intent to **prevent all convicted DUI offenders from risking lives ever again.** Please place the lives of your and our children, spouses, loved ones, families, friends and all Marylanders above any minor technical or procedural impediment.

Maryland Lawmakers Can Create A Maryland Road Safety Legacy!



Is it possible that the Maryland General Assembly could boldly take a preminent, leadership role during this 2023 session by sending the message to the public and the legal system that Maryland lawmakers put 100% into ensuring that safety comes first? Can the Maryland General Assembly join with Governor Moore to ensure that **no one and nothing's left behind in making roadway safety a #1 priority**?

Background – SafeRoadsMD – Maryland Coalition for Roadway Safety, Inc.

Our founding organizations include the *American Automobile Association (AAA) Mid-Atlantic*, the *Greater Olney Civic Association (GOCA)*, *The Route 210 Traffic Safety Committee* in Prince George's County and a group of Maryland home owner associations. Alarmed by growing roadway violence in Maryland, we were established to call more attention to and combat the onslaught of speed and noise on our roads. The *Coalition* represents the interests of communities and individuals who directly suffer the consequences of illegal operation of motor vehicles.

The persistent toll that should concern us all? **2023 finished poorly as the sixth consecutive year in which between 500-600 people died from Maryland roadway violence.**

You Can Do It!

We thank you and the Committee for your review of our position, and urge you to submit a favorable recommendation and support for HB0451.

Sincerely,

John J. Seng
Chair

cc: Richard Leotta, Officer Noah A. Leotta Foundation; Governor Wes Moore; Ragina Ali, AAA MidAtlantic; Greater Olney Civic Association (GOCA); SafeRoadsMD *Coalition* Board of Directors and membership