



March 7, 2024

**House Bill 193**

**Anne Arundel County - Speed Limits - Establishment**

**House Environment and Transportation Committee**

**Position: FAVORABLE**

Anne Arundel County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 193 – Anne Arundel County - Speed Limits - Establishment

Pedestrian safety is critical to ensuring safe and thriving communities. Local jurisdictions should have full capability to address residential concerns regarding speed limits and how they impact different areas. It is important that we are able to ensure our roads that go through residential areas have appropriate speed limits in order to prevent potential car accidents or pedestrian fatalities.

Currently, Anne Arundel County has no authority to lower speed limits to 15 miles per hour, which leaves the County limited options to address potentially dangerous speed limits in areas where there is concern. Areas such as South County or Herald Harbor, where there is a significant elderly population and roads are less than 18 feet wide, would benefit from a lower speed limit to protect not only pedestrians, but drivers as well. Recently, the County lowered the speed limit on College Parkway from 50 to 40 miles per hour after a speed limit study showed the change was necessary. Expanding these efforts would give the county another tool to combat reckless driving and difficult commuter roads.

House Bill 193 enables Anne Arundel County to lower the speed limit to 15 miles per hour on certain roads after an engineering and traffic investigation. This bill also prohibits new speed monitoring cameras to be placed in areas where the limit was lowered to 15 miles per hour. We believe these provisions help ensure that Anne Arundel County is the best place - for all.

For all of these reasons, Anne Arundel County respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE** report on House Bill 193.