



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

BILL: House Bill 974 - Prince George's County - Speed Monitoring Systems - Indian Head Highway PG 306 - 24

SPONSOR: Prince George's County Delegation

HEARING DATE: February 29, 2024

COMMITTEE: Environment and Transportation

CONTACT: Intergovernmental Affairs Office, 301-780-8411

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Office of the Prince George's County Executive **SUPPORTS House Bill 974 - Prince George's County - Speed Monitoring Systems - Indian Head Highway PG 306 -24**, which seeks to increase civil penalties for violations recorded by speed monitoring systems on Maryland Route 210 (Indian Head Highway) that are second or subsequent violations or that involve exceeding maximum speed limit by certain amounts.

Since the implementation of speed cameras in 2019, the portion of Indian Head Highway which falls inside Prince George's County has still seen a total of 25 fatal collisions.

Through heavy enforcement by patrol officers, special assignments funded by overtime, and joint operations with the Maryland State Police, the Prince George's County Police Department (PGPD) has invested massive resources and man-hours into making this roadway safer. Since 2020, approximately 30 percent of violators have been previously cited for speeding along MD RT 210.

The speed monitoring systems currently in use have shown a demonstrable effect in reducing speeding on the highway. However, despite the current speed monitoring enforcement coupled with the best efforts of the PGPD and their increased enforcement, this deadly stretch of MD 210 is still averaging 5 fatalities a year. Please help us to curb dangerous driving and potentially avoid additional tragic deaths by approving the increase of civil penalties as well as penalties that are second or subsequent violations or that involve exceeding maximum speed limit by certain amounts.

The passage of **House Bill 974** would provide additional tools for law enforcement to use to improve traffic safety and help protect the many motorists and pedestrians who travel on Indian Head Highway.

For the reasons stated above, the Office of the Prince George's County Executive **SUPPORTS House Bill 974** and asks for a **FAVORABLE** report.