

February 6, 2024

I am a resident of College Park, and I support HB0212: Vehicle Laws – Noise Abatement Monitoring Systems – Authorization.

I have lived in Maryland for 30 years and, in the past several years, have noticed a growing number of loud vehicles on our neighborhood streets and local thoroughfares. This happens, unfortunately, at all hours of the day and night, and it has the effect of increasingly disturbing the peace and our quality of life.

At various community meetings with the police, I've heard my neighbors share how this unnecessary noise negatively affects their quality of life, and I agree with them. I often have meetings and conversations in my home disrupted by this loud vehicle noise. I sometimes cannot have conversations on my back patio due to loud vehicle noise on the street in front of my house. I've sometimes been awoken late at night by loud vehicle noise passing by.

In community meetings, I've also heard the police assure us there are laws forbidding the modified mufflers that make this noise and assure us that they are issuing citations. I am grateful for these laws and for this enforcement, but despite that, this unnecessary noise continues. Our hard-working police cannot be everywhere, and thankfully there is the technology of noise-abatement monitoring systems that could help our police enforce the law.

We need communities that allow us and our children to get adequate sleep in order to do well the next day at work or at school. We need communities in which we can live without frequent unnecessary loud noise from modified automotive systems. We need our hard-working police officers to be able to focus their efforts on other, more dangerous activities such as crimes.

I encourage you to support HB0212 to allow municipalities such as mine to post noise-abatement monitoring systems to identify these vehicles that are disturbing the peace in our community.

Thank you.

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