



January 31, 2024

The Hon. William C. Smith, Jr.  
2 East Miller Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: American Motorcyclist Association Support of SB 68

Dear Chair Smith:

The American Motorcyclist Association fully supports accident victims and their families in cases of reckless and negligent accidents. For this reason, the AMA supports Senate Bill 68, Reckless and Negligent Driving – Death of Another – Must–Appear Violation (Sherry’s and Christian’s Law).

Currently, in some cases drivers who are convicted of a negligent or reckless offense have the option to prepay a court fine and not appear before a judge. Victims of these accidents and their families deserve a day in court and the ability to seek closure.

Senate Bill 68 will require these offenders to appear in court, face the consequences of their actions, and demonstrate these instances are serious in nature. Analysis indicates that while these cases are few, this oversight needs legislative correction.

Founded in 1924, the AMA is a nonprofit organization with more than 215,000+ members and represents more than 10 million motorcycling households in America. Our mission is to promote the motorcycle lifestyle and protect the future of motorcycling.

Thank you for your time and consideration of these comments. If you have any questions, please contact me at 336-905-5544 or [zfarmer@ama-cycle.org](mailto:zfarmer@ama-cycle.org).

Sincerely,

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Washington Representative  
American Motorcyclist Association

cc: Vice Chair Waldstreicher, Senators Carozza, Gile, Jennings, Klausmeier, Watson, and West