



ABATE OF MARYLAND, INC.

Dedicated to Freedom of the Road & Responsible Motorcycle Legislation

To: The Honorable Will Smith, Chairman and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

From: Ken Eaton, Director, Executive Director, ABATE of Maryland, Inc.

Date: February 21, 2024

Re: **SB730** - Motor Vehicles – Motorcycles – Passenger Restrictions

Position: **FAVORABLE: SUPPORT**

ABATE of Maryland, Inc. represents the approximately 121,000 on road motorcycles that are registered in Maryland. We are a state motorcycle rights organization that brings together the voices of independent riders, clubs, riding organizations, etc. We have chapters throughout the state and our members include a diverse cross-section of motorcycle riders in Maryland. We **SUPPORT SB730**.

This bill requires a rear passenger to “be able to firmly position the passenger’s feet on the footrests of the motorcycle.” We have seen a version of this bill in previous years that stated a minimum age. Not only is that hard to enforce as a motorcycle passes by, but as we all are aware, children grow at different rates and applying an age to this requirement just did not seem to make sense. We completely agree with stipulating that the passenger must be able to reach the footrests.

ABATE of Maryland, Inc. **SUPPORTS SB 730** - Motor Vehicles – Motorcycles – Passenger Restrictions. We urge the committee to consider a **Favorable** vote on this legislation and move it to the Senate floor for a vote.

Thank you!

Kenneth B. Eaton, Executive Director
ABATE of Maryland, Inc.