

Wicomico County Public Schools

2424 Northgate Drive, Salisbury • P.O. Box 1538, Salisbury, MD 21802-1538 • 410-677-4400

Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

The Honorable Mary Beth Carozza James Senate Office Building 11 Bladen Street, Room 316 Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Senator Carozza,

As Superintendent of Schools for Wicomico County, I am reaching out to express my endorsement of SB961, the Wicomico County-Vehicle Laws - Prohibition on Roadway Solicitation.

Throughout the period from January 6, 2022, to February 18, 2024, our community has been impacted by 234 incidents requiring attention related to solicitation for funds. It has become apparent that many of these individuals are known to law enforcement, and unfortunately, the avenues for enforcement action are limited. A significant number of these instances involve individuals positioning themselves in close proximity to or within active traffic lanes, placing both themselves and drivers at risk. The solicitation of funds by individuals creates the potential for hazardous conditions for drivers, including our own bus drivers.

While recognizing the compassionate intentions behind their actions, I firmly believe that channeling generosity towards local organizations would yield more impactful results, providing vital assistance to a broader spectrum of individuals in need.

Empowering our law enforcement officers in Wicomico County with the capacity to enforce Title 21-507c of the Maryland Annotated Traffic Code will undoubtedly serve as a deterrent, reallocate resources effectively, and contribute to fostering a safer environment for our community.

Your support of SB961 is crucial in ensuring the well-being and security of our residents. Together, we can enact positive change and uphold the safety standards of our county.

Sincerely,

Micah C. Stauffer, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

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