



Chair William C. Smith, Jr.
and Members, Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

March 27, 2024

Dear Chair Smith and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Dan Reed and I serve as the Regional Policy Director for [Greater Greater Washington](#), a nonprofit that works to advance racial, economic, and environmental justice in land use, transportation, and housing throughout Greater Washington. GGWash supports House Bill 612, which will remove the requirement for an engineering and traffic study before reducing speed limits or installing speed cameras.

I live near the intersection of Sligo Avenue and Piney Branch Road in Silver Spring. Almost a year ago, on December 23, 2022, a 22-year-old driver lost control and crashed, killing himself and injuring his two passengers¹. I cross these streets multiple times a day with my dog, and each time I walk past the demolished brick retaining wall that the car crashed into. It's a reminder that one day I could be next. I know lots of places like this, where someone, occasionally someone I know personally, was injured or lost their life due to their actions or the actions of someone else behind the wheel of a car.


Requiring a study in order to reduce a speed limit will only increase the likelihood that another tragedy occurs. This bill will ensure that we can respond quickly. A lower speed limit is just the first step to making a street safer, but an important one. We ask the Judicial Proceedings Committee to give this bill a favorable report. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dan Reed'.

Dan Reed
Regional Policy Director
Greater Greater Washington

¹ <https://www.sourceofthespring.com/silver-spring-news/2801415/police-investigating-piney-branch-rd-fatal-collision/>

The Washington, DC region is great  and it can be greater.