



# Montgomery County

## Office of Intergovernmental Relations

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**HB 182**

**DATE: February 21, 2025**

**SPONSOR: Delegate Stewart**

**ASSIGNED TO: Environment and Transportation**

**CONTACT PERSON: Sara Morningstar (Sara.Morningstar@montgomerycountymd.gov)**

**COUNTY POSITION: SUPPORT**

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### **Motor Vehicles – Speed Monitoring Systems – Penalties**

Montgomery County supports House Bill 182, which revises the civil penalty imposed for exceeding a speed limit as recorded by an automated traffic enforcement speed camera. Specifically, the legislation establishes a graduated fine schedule for violations recorded by speed cameras ranging from the current \$40 fine for exceeding the posted speed limit between 12 to 15 miles per hour (mph) to \$350 for exceeding the posted speed limit by 40 mph or more.

Under current law, drivers stopped by a police officer for excessive speeding under § 21-801.1 of the Transportation Article receive graduated fines and points based on how much the driver was exceeding the posted speed limit. Fines start at \$80 plus one point for going one to nine miles per hour over the posted speed limit, to \$530 and five points for exceeding the posted speed limit by 40 mph or greater. For speeding violations captured on a speed camera, a registered vehicle owner receives a citation for \$40 and zero points *regardless* of how fast the driver was going. The low penalty provides little to no incentive for drivers to follow posted speed limits on roads with automated traffic enforcement systems.

House Bill 182 will bring greater parity between officer-issued and automated speed camera fines by providing a graduated fine structure that reflects the undisputed fact that high speeds are associated with higher injury and fatalities. For these reasons, Montgomery County urges the Committee to adopt a favorable report on the bill.