



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

BILL: House Bill 349: Prince George's County - Speed Monitoring Systems - Maryland Route 210 PG 306-25

SPONSORS: The Prince George's County Delegation

HEARING DATE: February 21, 2025 at 1:00PM

COMMITTEE: Environment and Transportation

CONTACT: Intergovernmental Affairs Office, 301-780-8411

POSITION: SUPPORT

The office of the Acting Prince George's County Executive urges **SUPPORT** of **House Bill 349: Prince George's County - Speed Monitoring Systems - Maryland Route 210 PG 306-25**, which increases civil penalties for violations recorded by speed monitoring systems on Maryland Route 210.

Since the implementation of speed cameras in 2019, the portion of Maryland's Indian Head Highway which falls inside the Prince George's County borders, has seen a total of 29 fatal collisions, 16 of which involved pedestrians. This is a crisis to which both long and short-term solutions must be applied with haste.

The Prince George's County Police Department has stepped up, and while we can plan to do more, our teams currently on the ground welcome *any* additional help from the State. Through heavy enforcement by our patrol officers, special assignments funded by overtime, and joint operations with the Maryland State Police, PGPD has invested massive resources and man-hours into making this Maryland roadway safer.

The speed monitoring systems currently in use have shown a demonstrable effect in reducing speeding on the highway and our residents—your neighbors, are thankful for that. However, despite the current speed monitoring enforcement, coupled with the best efforts of the PGPD and our increased enforcement, this deadly stretch of Maryland 210 is still averaging approximately 5 fatalities a year.

Furthermore, an analysis of speed camera data from August through December 2024 revealed a troubling trend: 1,173 repeat offenders were detected. Of those, 906 offenders had five or more citations, and one driver had over 60. This significant number of individuals repeatedly exceeding the speed limit underscores the need for

stronger deterrents to modify driver behavior and enhance safety on this corridor. The current flat fine of \$40 is not substantial enough to modify motorists' behavior. We believe that higher fines for increased speeds will help create a safer Maryland 210 *for all*.

The passage of HB 349 would provide additional tools for law enforcement to use to improve traffic safety and help protect the many motorists and pedestrians who travel on Indian Head Highway.

For the reasons stated above, the Office of the Acting Prince George's County Executive **SUPPORTS HB 349** and asks for a **FAVORABLE** report.