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The Honorable Marc Korman
Chair, House Environment and Transportation Committee
250 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: House Bill 731 Wildlife - Protections and Highway Crossings – FAVORABLE

Dear Chairman Korman and Members of the Committee,

I'm writing today on behalf of the Maryland Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (MAMIC) in support of House Bill 731.

MAMIC is comprised of 12 mutual insurance companies that are headquartered in Maryland and neighboring states. Approximately one-half of its members are domiciled in Maryland, and are key contributors and employers in our local communities. Together, MAMIC members offer a wide variety of insurance products and services and provide coverage for thousands of Maryland citizens.

MAMIC members who offer automobile insurance in the State often adjudicate claims resulting from collisions with wild animals. The considerable majority of such collisions involve deer; in fact, a recent study by the Maryland Insurance Administration noted that such collisions are both common and costly, with over 30,000 wildlife collisions each year.

MAMIC members believe that the time has come to examine this phenomenon more closely, and that such examination should include State and federal agencies, nongovernmental organizations and other stakeholders, all as set forth in House Bill 731.

The stakes are high, both in reducing future losses from wildlife collisions and enhancing traffic safety in areas of the State where such collisions are likely to occur. For these reasons, we respectfully request a favorable report on House Bill 731.

Very truly yours,



Bryson Popham