



Montgomery County

Office of Intergovernmental Relations

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HB 1227

DATE: February 21, 2025

SPONSOR: Montgomery County Delegation

ASSIGNED TO: Environment and Transportation

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COUNTY POSITION: Support with Amendments

Montgomery County – Vehicle Control and Monitoring Systems – Distribution of Contested Traffic Fines, Application, and Implementation MC 8-25

House Bill 1227, as introduced, requires that beginning on October 1, 2025, the penalties collected by the District Court for all contested automated traffic enforcement citations issued in Montgomery County be remitted to the Comptroller for distribution to the State Highway Administration (SHA), rather than to the District Court. The bill directs the Administration to use these funds to help build median dividers on highways in the County where a school bus stop is located and where those stops have resulted in the issuance of at least 400 citations from school bus camera violations to drivers traveling in the opposite direction of the bus stop.

Current State law applying to Montgomery County beginning on December 31, 2026, prohibits school bus stops from being located on any highway with five or more undivided traffic lanes unless: (1) a crossing guard is present to assist students in crossing the road; or (2) a traffic control device is in use to maintain a red-light signal at those locations while a student is boarding or exiting a school bus. House Bill 1227 extends the December 31, 2026, date by two years, to December 31, 2028, and applies the crossing guard and control device restrictions only to those school bus stops where at least 400 citations from school bus camera violations to drivers traveling in the opposite direction of the bus stop have been issued.

The Montgomery County House Delegation amended the bill to: (1) redirect revenues generated from contested violations to Montgomery County, instead of SHA for the purpose of building median dividers as described in the bill, and (2) clarify that the number of citations as referenced in the bill should be calculated based on the number issued in the immediately preceding fiscal year.

Because Montgomery County cannot comply with the law as currently written, the County supports this legislation. As amended, the bill reduces the number of bus stops that must be moved or staffed with crossing guards and extends the timeline for compliance. This revised plan allows the County additional time to either comply with the law or continue to work with its delegation to identify a better path forward.