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*Subcommittees*

Housing & Real Property

Chair, Motor Vehicle and  
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**Testimony in Support of HB 348**  
**Motor Vehicles - Speed Monitoring Systems -**  
**Safety Corridors**

Testimony by Delegate Vaughn Stewart  
February 18, 2025 | Environment & Transportation Committee

**What the Bill Does:**

HB 348 authorizes the State Highway Administration (SHA) to install speed cameras on segments of state highways that have been identified as high-risk for vulnerable road users and pedestrians. The bill adds an important enforcement tool into SHA's toolkit to prevent dangerous and excessive speeding on Maryland road ways.

**Why the Bill is Important:**

Speed is a determining factor in the severity of roadway crashes. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), the likelihood of a pedestrian fatality reaches 85% when vehicles travel at speeds of 40 MPH or higher. For too many Marylanders, this is more than just a statistic—it is a tragic reality.

The SHA's Pedestrian Safety Action Plan and the Vulnerable Road User Safety Assessment identify the most critical areas for pedestrian and cyclist safety improvements. To address the safety needs in these areas, SHA uses a combination of proven countermeasures, including infrastructure enhancements and traffic enforcement tools. HB 348 adds an essential enforcement mechanism by authorizing speed monitoring in these high-risk zones to prevent excessive speeding and improve safety for all road users.

This bill is about protecting lives. People like Dan Langenkamp, who lost his wife Sarah in a vulnerable road user crash, or Nigel Samaroo, who survived two serious injury crashes but now suffers from chronic pain, serve as sobering reminders of the cost of inaction. We also remember Enzo Alvarenga, an 18-year-old University of Maryland student whose life was tragically cut short. These are real people, with families and futures, whose tragedies could have been prevented with better speed enforcement measures.

By creating a structured and fair system for speed monitoring in safety corridors, HB 348 ensures that our roads are not just for cars, but for everyone who uses them. This bill balances public safety, enforcement integrity, and investment in critical infrastructure.

**Why the Committee Should Vote Favorably:**

HB 348 is about saving lives and making Maryland's road safer for everyone - it will prevent unnecessary tragedies by addressing excessive speeding in high-risk areas, improve compliance with speed limits through effective, targeted enforcement, and get us one step closer to achieving the Vision Zero goals of zero roadway deaths.

**Let's take this necessary step toward a safer, more responsible transportation system. I urge a favorable report.**