

Chair Marc Korman and Members, Environment and Transportation Committee 250 Taylor House Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

February 20, 2025

Dear Chair Korman and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:

My name is Dan Reed and I serve as the Maryland Policy Director for <u>Greater Greater Washington</u>, a nonprofit that works to advance sustainability and equity in housing, land use, and transportation throughout Greater Washington and beyond. **GGWash strongly supports House Bill 915**, the Out-of-State Driver Accountability Act.

As written, this bill would allow the Maryland state's attorney to go after drivers with unpaid and overdue traffic citations. It's modeled on the District of Columbia's STEER Act, which empowers the District to hold drivers in Maryland and Virginia accountable for reckless behavior<sup>1</sup>.

I live off of Piney Branch Road in Montgomery County, a major artery between DC and Maryland where speeding and reckless driving are a constant concern. As it currently stands, a driver licensed in the District can rack up hundreds or thousands of dollars in speeding tickets just across the line in Maryland–putting people in both communities in danger–and never have to pay. It's only fair that DC and Maryland have reciprocity for traffic citations issued to their drivers in the other jurisdiction.

This bill recognizes the reality of our multi-jurisdictional region, where people travel across state and District lines multiple times a day. It will make the roads safer for everyone while allowing Maryland to capture much-needed revenue. We ask the Environment and Transportation Committee for a favorable report.

Sincerely,

Dan Reed

Maryland Policy Director

The Washington, DC region is great >>> and it can be greater.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://wtop.com/local/2024/10/steer-act-cracks-down-on-dangerous-driving-in-dc/