



**HB0731 - SUPPORT**

Sonia Demiray  
Climate Communications Coalition  
[sonia@demirayink.com](mailto:sonia@demirayink.com)  
202-744-2948

**HB0731- Wildlife Connectivity and Crossings Act**

Environment and Transportation

February 19, 2025

Dear Chair Korman, Vice Chair Boyce and members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:

My name is Sonia Demiray, I am the Executive Director of the Climate Communications Coalition, a member of the Mid-Atlantic Justice Coalition and the Maryland Climate Justice Wing. The Climate Communications Coalition strongly supports HB0731.

This bill will help reduce the impact of the growing population pressure on wildlife across Maryland. HB0731 is 100% positive: it promotes collaboration among state agencies and stakeholders, it requires accountability through performance metrics, and leverages federal funds to save the lives of Marylanders and of wildlife. Virginia, after building wildlife crossings saved around \$2.3 million per site in less than two years through avoided collisions.

The amount of roadkill along our roads and highways frankly is frightening and sad. There is a relatively easy solution. Let's make it safer for our animals to cross the deadly corridors that we have drawn across their habitat and provide safe passageways for our imperiled, and some not so imperiled, species.

We urge a favorable report on HB0731.

###