

LORIG CHARKOUDIAN
Legislative District 20
Montgomery County

Economic Matters Committee

Subcommittees

Public Utilities

Chair, Unemployment Insurance



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HB 1032 - MONTGOMERY COUNTY - STOP SIGN MONITORING SYSTEMS
- AUTHORIZATION MC 4-25

TESTIMONY OF DELEGATE LORIG CHARKOUDIAN
FEBRUARY 21ST, 2025

Chair Korman, Vice Chair Boyce, and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee,

Unsignalized intersections are the most common type of intersection in the United States- and Maryland. Nationally, over 6,500 fatalities, almost 1,000 pedestrian fatalities, and nearly 200 bicyclist fatalities occur at unsignalized intersections each year.¹ Even more injury crashes occur at these intersections. In order to make roads safer for all users- preeminently pedestrians and bicyclists- and move closer to Maryland's Vision Zero goal, we must make these intersections safer.

This bill authorizes Montgomery County to install stop sign monitoring systems in school zones, if passed by the local jurisdiction. The bill outlines the process including the below qualifications:

- requiring notice of the new camera on the agency's website before use,
- requiring clearly visible signs to notify drivers of the presence of the cameras, and
- creating due process for stop sign violations

By authorizing a program like this in school zone areas, we are increasing safety for vulnerable pedestrians and learning more about the benefits of stop sign cameras which could lead to their implementation in other areas. As one of the first county governments in the country to develop a Vision Zero plan, Montgomery County can continue to lead in pedestrian safety by implementing stop sign cameras in school zones.

Therefore, I respectfully request a favorable report on HB1032.

¹ *About Intersection Safety*. U.S. Department of Transportation- Federal Highway Administration.
<https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/intersection/about/>