



BILL NO: House Bill 1
TITLE: Department of Transportation – Human Trafficking Awareness, Training, and Response (See Someone, Save Someone Act)
COMMITTEE: Environment and Transportation
HEARING DATE: January 24, 2025
POSITION: **SUPPORT**

The Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV) is the state domestic violence coalition that brings together victim service providers, allied professionals, and concerned individuals for the common purpose of reducing intimate partner and family violence and its harmful effects on our citizens. **MNADV urges the COMMITTEE to favorably Report on HB1.**

House Bill 1 requires the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), in consultation with stakeholders, to develop or identify and implement a training program that includes a curriculum on the identification and reporting of suspected human trafficking. MDOT would be required to establish a human trafficking reporting process, to provide training to its employees within certain time periods and certify such training has occurred. It must also establish a human trafficking prevention policy as well as offer public service information as it is able.

Maryland’s location on the I-95 corridor makes it a part of the broad human trafficking that occurs on the eastern seaboard. A program that increases awareness of and trains about prevention of human trafficking is important. Employees of MDOT should have the tools to recognize suspected human trafficking and have a policy for what to do if they suspect it. Other agencies in Maryland are required to do this and it makes sense for MDOT to as well.

For the above stated reasons, the **Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence urges a favorable report on HB1.**