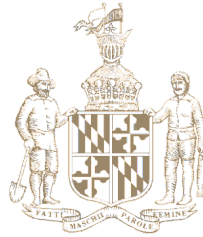


SENATOR ARTHUR ELLIS
SENATE CHAIR

SENATOR MICHAEL A. JACKSON



DELEGATE DEBRA M. DAVIS
HOUSE CHAIR

DELEGATE KEVIN M. HARRIS
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DELEGATE C. T. WILSON

THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
CHARLES COUNTY DELEGATION

February 4, 2025

Good morning Chair Korman, Vice Chair Boyce and members of the committee.

It is an honor to stand before you, on behalf of the Charles County Delegation, I am Camille Dickerson a Graduating Senior From University of Maryland obtaining my Bachelor's degree in Criminology. I am here today on behalf of the Chair of the Charles County Delegation Delegate Davis to urge your support of HB 1283– Off-Highway Recreational Vehicles—you may be familiar with this bill as it has been heard in committee before by Vice Chair Boyce. According to The Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems ([MIEMSS](#)) ATV-related crashes have ended lives and injured thousands across Maryland, primarily among our children. Between 2001 and 2007, five children, including a two year old, died in ATV incidents. In just six years, over 9,000 people—one-third under age 15—were treated for off-road vehicle injuries, with more than 1,000 hospitalized, with two-thirds of trauma patients not wearing helmets.

These tragedies are preventable. Stronger regulations and enforcement are critical to protect our children and prevent more loss. With the support of HB1283 we can enact more regulations on these off-highway vehicles (OHV) that do not belong on the highways. OHVs like dirt bikes and ATVs are not designed for road use, yet we increasingly see them operating recklessly on public streets, endangering both riders and pedestrians. These vehicles often lack the necessary safety features such as headlights, turn signals, and proper braking systems, making them hazardous in traffic. This bill is not trying to take OHV away from our constituents but this law is saying that Charles County has the authority to regulate off-highway recreational vehicles (OHVs) and can impound (take and hold) these vehicles if they are involved in certain motor vehicle violations. For these reasons, I urge the committee's favorable report on HB1283. Thank you for your time and consideration. We welcome any questions and are available for any further discussion.

Sincerely,

Camille Dickerson for,
Delegate Debra Davis, Esq.

