

**Support for SB 613 - Montgomery County and Prince George's County – Distracted Driving Monitoring System Pilot Program**

**Ron Weiss, Fort Washington**

Dear Chair Smith and Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee,

I live near MD 210, and it is my main street. Every day, I share this highway with 80,000 vehicles, some of which are driven by people who take reckless and dangerous risks including using their cellphone while driving. My goal, like so many others who travel this dangerous road, is simple: I just want to get home safely.

I strongly support the use of an automated system to enforce distracted driving laws on MD 210 because:

Distracted driving leads to **longer reaction times** which contributes to a high crash risk and a higher risk of a more serious crash.

Enforcing distracting driving laws is **resource-intensive** and not always effective.

**Automated enforcement of distracted driving has been proven effective:**

The Australian New South Wales (NSW) Government implemented mobile phone detection cameras in 2019, and a **six-month trial** identified over **100,000 violations** from **8.5 million vehicles**.

The violation rate **dropped by two-thirds** since the program's introduction.

I am convinced that this pilot program will save lives on MD 210.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ron Weiss

MD 210 Traffic Safety Committee Founding Member