



**PLEASE SUPPORT
HB915**

**Motor Vehicles – Out-of-State Drivers –
Automated Enforcement (Out-of-State
Driver Accountability Act)**

**MARYLAND COALITION FOR ROADWAY SAFETY
URGES SENATE JPR COMMITTEE SUPPORT FOR HB915**

March 25, 2025

TO:

Honorable Senator William C. Smith, Chair
Honorable Senator Jeff Waldstreicher, Vice Chair
Judicial Proceedings Committee
Maryland General Assembly
2 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

FROM:

John Seng, Chair
SafeRoadsMD - Maryland Coalition For Roadway Safety, Inc.
(202) 468-7682, JSeng@SafeRoadsMD.org
SafeRoadsMD.org

Dear Sen. Smith, Sen. Waldstreicher and JPR Committee Members:

The Maryland Coalition for Roadway Safety (SafeRoadsMD) supports HB915 - “**Motor Vehicles – Out-of-State Drivers – Automated Enforcement (Out-of-State Driver Accountability Act)**,” which will take a critical step toward fair enforcement of Maryland’s traffic laws and improved roadway safety for all.

While ranking below the US national average fatality rate per billion miles driven, Washington, DC (12.6 fatalities/billion miles driven) still ranked significantly worse than Maryland (9.9 fatalities/billion miles driven) by 17 states, based on 2021 NHTSA data.

Given the higher fatality rate, DC drivers who cross into Maryland should be subject to the same Maryland laws and enforcement as Maryland residents—just as Marylanders are when driving in the District. Currently, that accountability is lacking.

Maryland drivers are expected to pay their traffic citations, but out-of-state drivers—particularly from DC—can too easily exploit gaps in enforcement to avoid consequences.

Meanwhile, the District enacted the **STEER Act**, giving its Attorney General the authority to pursue Maryland drivers for unpaid fines. Ultimately, Maryland deserves the same tools to hold D.C. drivers accountable on our roads.

HB915 establishes an enforcement “data foundation” by requiring local automated enforcement programs—including those using speed, red light, bus lane, school bus, and other monitoring systems—to submit **quarterly reports** on citations issued to out-of-state vehicles. These reports will include license plate and registration data, payment status, and cumulative summaries, with updates as citations are resolved. This data will be submitted to the Vision Zero coordinator, enabling proper tracking and collaboration across agencies.

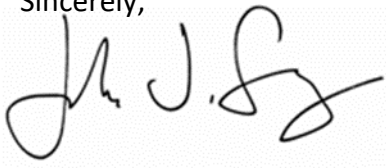
Why HB915 Matters:

- It lays the groundwork for **reciprocity**—if Marylanders must follow D.C.'s traffic laws, D.C. drivers should follow ours.
- It **promotes safety**, reducing the likelihood that unpaid citations encourage reckless behavior.
- It **strengthens enforcement** by giving local jurisdictions the potential ability to monitor and follow up on out-of-state violations.
- And most importantly, it pushes us closer to **fairness**—all drivers should face the same legal standards on Maryland roads.

HB915 is a common-sense measure that begins to close enforcement gaps, supports Maryland’s **Vision Zero** goal of eliminating serious traffic injuries and deaths by 2030, and ensures fairness for Maryland drivers who play by the rules.

We respectfully urge the Judicial Proceedings Committee to vote favorably for HB915 and support its passage. Thank you for your continued commitment to safer Maryland roads.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John J. Seng". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being more prominent than the last name "Seng".

John J. Seng
Chair
Maryland Coalition for Roadway Safety, Inc.

cc: SafeRoadsMD Board of Directors