



Montgomery County

Office of Intergovernmental Relations

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SB 118

DATE: January 22, 2025

SPONSOR: Senator Waldstreicher

ASSIGNED TO: Judicial Proceedings

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COUNTY POSITION: Support

Motor Vehicles – Speed Monitoring Systems – Penalties

Senate Bill 118 creates a graduated fine structure for excessive motor vehicle speeding violations captured by automated traffic enforcement systems on Maryland roadways. Montgomery County supports the measure as a public safety issue and a Vision Zero priority.

Currently, if a driver is pulled over by a police officer for exceeding the posted speed limit, under § 21-801.1 of the Transportation Article, there are increasing fines depending on how far over the speed limit a driver is traveling. For automated enforcement, however, all speeding infractions are \$40, regardless of how fast a motorist is driving. Last session, the General Assembly recognized the danger of this disparity in work zones and passed the Maryland Road Worker Protection Act. Under the new law, a tiered fine structure was established based on the speed a vehicle travels above the posted speed limit creating a strong financial incentive NOT to speed in a work zone.

Road safety could be improved by expanding the graduated fine structure to all roadways using automated traffic enforcement. Senate Bill 118 accomplishes this by moving closer to parity between a speeding citation issued by a police officer and a speeding citation recorded by an automated traffic camera.

Montgomery County urges the Committee to adopt a favorable report on Senate Bill 118.