CORY V. McCray Legislative District 45 Baltimore City

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Legislative Policy Committee

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Vote Yes on Senate Bill 500

Bill Title: Baltimore City – Speed Monitoring Systems – Interstate 83 Committee: Judicial Proceedings Hearing Date: Feb 4th 2025

Dear Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Esteemed Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

I write today to express my strong support for Senate Bill 500, which seeks to expand and enhance traffic safety measures along Interstate 83 in Baltimore City. This legislation increases the number of speed monitoring systems permitted on this critical roadway from two to four and makes permanent the authority to deploy these systems.

Interstate 83 serves as a major transportation corridor through Baltimore City, facilitating significant commuter traffic. Unfortunately, excessive speeding and reckless driving along this stretch of highway continue to endanger motorists, pedestrians, and the broader community. The implementation of speed monitoring systems has been instrumental in reducing dangerous driving behaviors, and increasing their presence will only strengthen these efforts. By expanding enforcement capabilities, SB 500 enhances public safety, deters reckless driving, and helps prevent avoidable accidents.

Additionally, this bill removes the current sunset provision, which would otherwise cause the authorization for speed monitoring systems on I-83 to expire in 2026. Traffic safety is not a temporary concern—it is an ongoing priority that demands sustained attention and resources. By making this authorization permanent, SB 500 ensures that Baltimore City has the necessary tools to maintain safe road conditions without interruption.

As with all automated enforcement initiatives, transparency and community oversight remain key. Under existing law, the use of speed monitoring systems requires approval from the local governing body following reasonable notice and a public hearing. This guarantees that their deployment is conducted responsibly and with public input.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 500. This legislation is a measured, effective, and necessary step toward making Interstate 83 a safer thoroughfare for all who travel it.

Continued Blessings,

Cory V. McCray 45th District