

MARYLAND COALITION FOR ROADWAY SAFETY, INC.

URGES YOUR SUPPORT FOR SB 530

January 31, 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, <u>JSeng@SafeRoadsMD.org</u> <u>SafeRoadsMD.org</u>

Dear Sen. Smith and Sen. Waldstreicher:

I am writing on behalf of the Maryland Coalition for Roadway Safety to express our strong support for Senate Bill 530, "Vehicle Laws - Speed Monitoring Systems - Residential Districts," a critical piece of legislation that will empower local jurisdictions to address the growing crisis of excessive speeding on Maryland's roads.

As you know, speeding remains a leading cause of road crashes, injuries, and fatalities across Maryland. With law enforcement staffing declining and fewer road patrols available to deter reckless driving, more lives face lethal risk every day.

SafeRoadsMD represents stakeholders and residents across multiple Maryland counties who have long advocated for stronger local oversight in combatting dangerous speeding. We firmly believe in the use of speed camera systems and other technology to enhance road safety and reduce traffic-related tragedies. These bills provide a necessary and practical solution by allowing individual counties to determine where and how to implement speed cameras without requiring approval from other jurisdictions.

Currently, each county in Maryland must obtain a majority vote from delegates across the entire State to install speed cameras in their communities. This inefficient process hinders the ability of local governments to act swiftly in response to their specific road safety needs.

Maryland Coalition for Roadway Safety, Inc. 2127 Regina Terrace, Clarksburg, MD 20871 (202) 468-7682 SB 530 introduces a common-sense approach by eliminating this outdated requirement. Under the proposed legislation, counties will have sole authority to decide whether to implement speed cameras within their jurisdictions, ensuring that local leaders who best understand their communities' traffic safety challenges can take immediate and appropriate action.

By supporting SB 530, you will be endorsing a safer, more efficient approach to traffic enforcement, one that prioritizes local decision-making and public safety. We urge you to stand with us in protecting Maryland's road users and reducing preventable accidents caused by excessive speeding.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or would like to discuss further how these bills will benefit Maryland communities.

Sincerely,

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

cc: SafeRoadsMD board, Citizens Against Speeding board, Route 210 Traffic Safety Committee