

Good afternoon Mr. Chairman, Vice Chairwoman, and members of the committee. I am The Legislative Representative and Chairman of the Board of ABATE of Maryland, the state's largest motorcycle rights organization. ABATE of Maryland fully supports passage of HB0361.

We have lobbied relentlessly for its passage for a number of years. Our organization does not view this legislation as strictly a bill for motorcyclists, but rather a bill for all citizens of our great State.

We feel that passage of this bill will enhance the safety of our streets, roads, and highways for all Marylanders, while providing closure for the family members of victims of these tragic accidents. The list of offenses requiring a mandated court appearance in our state, is expansive.

ABATE of Maryland feels that a motor vehicle accident that results in a fatality should have been a part of this list long ago.

With that in mind, we respectfully request a favorable vote and passage of HB0361.

Robert Spanburgh Jr.

Chairman of the Board

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