



Jolene Ivey
At-Large Council Member

"Serving the People of Prince George's County!"

March 31, 2026

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am Prince George's County Council Member At-Large Jolene Ivey, and I write in support of Senate Bill 68, the D. Torch Road Safety Act, and ask that this Committee vote favorably.

I support SB 68 because it takes a simple, practical step to improve road safety in Maryland. Motorcycles are smaller and less visible than other vehicles, and many crashes occur because drivers fail to notice them or do not understand how to share the road safely. Requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to include motorcycle-safety awareness questions on the driver's license exam will help ensure that every new driver learns basic rules for interacting safely with motorcycles, including visibility, following distance, and safe lane use.

This bill uses the existing driver's licensing exam process to improve public safety without creating new bureaucracy or significant costs. By making motorcycle awareness part of the knowledge expected of every driver, Maryland can help reduce preventable crashes and encourage safer habits on the road.

The Senate has already recognized the value of this common-sense measure by passing SB 68 with strong bipartisan support. The House should also support the bill so that this straightforward safety improvement can take effect. Increasing driver awareness is one of the most effective ways to prevent collisions, and this legislation is a reasonable step toward making Maryland's roads safer for motorcyclists and all road users.

The Act is named in honor of Donnell "Torch" Floyd Jr., a reminder that behind every traffic statistic is a real person and a grieving community and family.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to support SB 68.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jolene Ivey
Member At-Large
Prince George's County Council