

Oral and Written Testimony in Support of SB0068, The D TORCH Road Safety Act

Jennifer Floyd
Founder and CEO, D TORCH Foundation

Chair Korman, Vice Chair Guyton, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony today in strong support of Senate Bill SB0068, the D TORCH Road Safety Act.

My name is Jennifer Floyd. I am the Founder and CEO of the D TORCH Foundation, a nonprofit organization I created after losing my son, Donnell G. Floyd Jr., known as TORCH in the motorcycle community, in a motorcycle crash on September 10, 2024.

Motorcyclists represent a small percentage of vehicles on our roads, yet they account for a disproportionate number of serious injuries and fatalities. In Maryland alone, an average of 77 motorcycle riders and passengers are killed each year, and nearly 1,000 motorcyclists are injured annually. Nationally, motorcyclists are more than 20 times more likely to be killed in a crash than occupants of passenger vehicles because they are far more vulnerable on the roadway.

One of the most dangerous places for motorcyclists is intersections. Many crashes occur not because drivers are reckless, but because they are not properly educated on how to safely share the road with motorcycles. My son did not make it home from one of those intersections.

Senate Bill SB0068 addresses this gap directly. It ensures that every new driver in Maryland is educated and tested through the Motor Vehicle Administration knowledge exam on motorcycle safety awareness topics such as visibility, proper lane positioning, safe following distances, and other essential safety principles.

This bill is about education, awareness, and prevention. It promotes a culture of shared responsibility and respect on Maryland roadways.

Following my testimony, I have included official Maryland Department of Transportation crash data showing motorcycle injury and fatal crashes by county from 2019 through 2023 to illustrate the statewide impact of this issue and the urgent need for SB0068.

This legislation has already passed the full Senate unanimously with strong bipartisan support. Families and communities across Maryland are hopeful that the House will join the Senate in supporting this important step toward safer roadways.

This bill is about more than statistics. It is about our loved ones, mine, yours, and our communities across Maryland. My son did not make it home. SB0068 can help prevent another family from receiving that call. One life lost is one life too many. I respectfully ask for a favorable report.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Floyd
Founder and CEO
D TORCH Foundation

**Maryland Department of Transportation
Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration
Maryland Highway Safety Office**

**Motorcycle-Involved Injury and Fatal Crashes
State of Maryland | 2019–2023**

This packet presents official Maryland crash data documenting motorcycle-involved injury and fatal crashes by county from 2019 through 2023. The information is provided to support roadway safety awareness and data-informed policy discussions aimed at reducing motorcycle injuries and fatalities across the State of Maryland.

Prepared by:
D TORCH Foundation
Mrs. Jennifer Floyd

**Maryland Department of Transportation
Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration
Maryland Highway Safety Office**

Motorcycle-Involved Injury Crashes by County (2019–2023)

County	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	AVG	%
Allegany	11	13	20	13	17	15	1.6
Anne Arundel	100	92	104	98	110	101	10.8
Baltimore County	128	128	136	141	124	131	14.0
Calvert	15	16	15	17	16	16	1.7
Caroline	5	5	2	5	7	5	0.5
Carroll	33	23	23	34	21	27	2.9
Cecil	29	36	26	36	36	33	3.5
Charles	38	36	33	39	27	35	3.7
Dorchester	7	6	8	6	10	7	0.8
Frederick	54	55	54	66	55	57	6.1
Garrett	7	8	6	7	9	7	0.8
Harford	36	43	50	58	47	47	5.0
Howard	33	25	39	39	34	34	3.6
Kent	2	2	1	5	4	3	0.3
Montgomery	94	67	69	87	83	80	8.5
Prince George's	107	118	130	93	109	111	11.9

County	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	AVG	%
Queen Anne's	8	12	11	9	13	11	1.1
St. Mary's	25	20	37	32	38	30	3.2
Somerset	3	2	3	4	2	3	0.3
Talbot	3	2	6	12	6	6	0.6
Washington	36	44	37	31	35	37	3.9
Wicomico	30	25	34	17	20	25	2.7
Worcester	30	26	25	23	29	27	2.8
Baltimore City	63	103	95	94	95	90	9.6
TOTAL	897	907	964	966	947	936	100.0

D TORCH Foundation | Mrs. Jennifer Floyd

**Maryland Department of Transportation
Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration
Maryland Highway Safety Office**

Motorcycle-Involved Fatal Crashes by County (2019–2023)

County	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	AVG	%
Allegany	0	1	0	1	1	1	0.8
Anne Arundel	9	11	4	7	6	7	9.6
Baltimore County	12	12	11	11	11	11	14.7
Calvert	1	2	2	3	2	2	2.6
Caroline	0	0	0	1	1	0	0.5
Carroll	0	4	2	1	0	1	1.8
Cecil	4	2	3	6	1	3	4.1
Charles	3	3	3	5	4	4	4.7
Dorchester	1	1	0	0	0	0	0.5
Frederick	6	7	6	4	7	6	7.8
Garrett	1	3	1	2	1	2	2.1
Harford	5	2	2	2	6	3	4.4
Howard	1	4	4	2	6	3	4.4
Kent	0	0	0	1	0	0	0.3
Montgomery	5	5	10	3	6	6	7.5

County	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	AVG	%
Prince George's	11	13	13	9	15	12	15.8
Queen Anne's	0	1	1	1	1	1	1.0
St. Mary's	3	2	3	1	3	2	3.1
Somerset	0	0	2	0	0	0	0.5
Talbot	0	0	0	1	0	0	0.3
Washington	1	3	1	3	2	2	2.6
Wicomico	5	1	2	1	1	2	2.6
Worcester	2	1	3	2	0	2	2.1
Baltimore City	4	3	4	8	6	5	6.5
TOTAL	74	81	77	75	80	77	100.0

D TORCH Foundation | Mrs. Jennifer Floyd