



**Bill:** HB 1381- Vehicle Laws - Stopping, Standing, or Parking in a Bike Lane or Bicycle Path - Prohibition

**Position:** FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENT

Dear Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Bike Maryland and the undersigned coalition of organizations from across Maryland, representing thousands of cyclists across the state, we express our support for an amended HB 1381. As amended, this legislation will improve safety for bicyclists and all road users in Maryland.

Many local laws are already in place prohibiting stopping, standing, and parking in bike lanes. While as drafted, this bill contains one carve out for local legislation, we believe it should defer to local context further, allowing local laws to prohibit additional exceptions. Therefore, we request an amendment that explicitly allows local laws to entirely supersede the floor of safety set in this legislation.

Virginia, D.C. and Baltimore City already have laws that prohibit stopping, standing and parking in bike lanes with only narrow exceptions.

Bicycle safety is a pressing concern in Maryland. Many cyclists face significant risks due to inadequate infrastructure, lack of awareness among drivers, and insufficient enforcement of existing laws. HB 1381 as amended provides an opportunity to address these challenges:

1. The bill will align with MD's commitment to Vision Zero and Complete Streets that increases the safety for all users. Keeping bike lanes clear avoids the need for bicyclists to dart/weave in and out of the travel lanes which is dangerous and increases congestion
2. Enhancing Traffic Laws: Strengthening laws that protect bicyclists and ensuring they are enforced will encourage safer interactions between drivers and cyclists.
3. Reducing Bicycle-Related Injuries and Fatalities: By prioritizing safety measures, HB 1381 as amended will help prevent tragic crash injuries and deaths of vulnerable road users and make cycling a safer option for Maryland residents.

Safer roads encourage more people to choose biking as a mode of transportation, leading to reduced traffic congestion and healthier lifestyles for Marylanders.

We urge the committee to support this legislation with amendment. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at [chair@bikemd.org](mailto:chair@bikemd.org).



**Baltimore Bicycling Club (BBC)**

**Baltimoreans for People Oriented Places**

**Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County (BikeAAA)**

**Bike Harford**

**Bike Maryland**

**Bikemore**

**Bike HoCo**

**Frederick Bicycle Coalition**

**Maryland Eastern Shore Trail Network**

**Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA)**