



# LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS OF MARYLAND, INC.

The Maryland House of Delegates, 6 Bladen Street, Room 300, Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3185 • 301-858-3185 • 800-492-7122 Ext. 3185 • Fax 410-841-3175 • 301-858-3175 • Black.Caucus@house.state.md.us

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

**The Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland offers its strong and favorable support for House Bill 777 (HB777) –Motor Vehicles - Required Equipment - Rear Occupant Alert Systems (Hot Cars Act).** HB 777 requires certain new motor vehicles to be equipped with a rear occupant alert system.

This legislation prohibits anyone from selling or offering for sale cars manufactured or assembled after a specified date unless the vehicle includes this system. The Motor Vehicle Administration is also prohibited from registering vehicles sold in violation of this requirement. This measure will take effect on October 1, 2029, giving manufacturers sufficient time to comply.

HB 777 protects passengers, especially children, by alerting drivers if someone remains in the back seat. This evidence-based safety feature can prevent serious injuries or fatalities, including accidents and heatstroke, and ensures that newer vehicles include modern safety standards.

This bill is particularly relevant to Black Marylanders and all communities, as children are at the center of every community. By requiring rear occupant alert systems, HB 777 encourages responsible vehicle use, improves overall vehicle safety, and ensures that all new cars meet standards that protect passengers' lives.

For these reasons, the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland strongly supports HB777.

Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland

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