



WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

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WICOMICO COUNTY COUNCIL

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February 20, 2026

Environment and Transportation Committee
Attn.: The Honorable Delegate Marc Korman, Chair
250 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Support for House Bill 591 – Wicomico County – Highway Pedestrian Safety Act

Dear Chairman Smith and Members of the Committee:

This letter is in support of House Bill 591, which is intended to improve pedestrian and roadway safety in Wicomico County.

This bill allows the County and its municipalities to identify specific roadways, shoulders, medians, or intersections that are especially dangerous for pedestrians. In these locations, standing in the roadway would be prohibited in order to reduce the risk of serious injury to pedestrians and motorists.

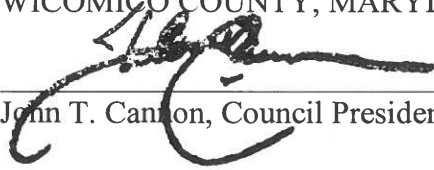
Just as important, House Bill 591 includes clear limits on enforcement. A police officer may not issue a citation unless proper warning signs are installed and the signs meet State Highway Administration standards. This ensures that the public is clearly notified and that enforcement is fair and consistent.

Wicomico County has several high-speed roads and busy intersections where standing in the roadway creates a real safety concern. House Bill 591 provides a reasonable and balanced way to address these hazards.

We urge your favorable consideration of House Bill 591.

Sincerely,

WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND



John T. Cannon, Council President

Enclosure

cc: Wicomico County Council
Wicomico County Executive
Bunky Luffman, Director of Administration
Wicomico County Delegation

HOUSE BILL 591

R5

6lr2000
CF SB 367

By: **Delegates Beauchamp, Adams, Arentz, Hartman, Hutchinson, and Sample-Hughes**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2026

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Wicomico County – Highway Pedestrian Safety Act**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person in Wicomico County from standing in a roadway,
4 shoulder, median divide, or intersection determined by the county or a municipal
5 corporation in the county to be inherently dangerous; prohibiting a police officer from
6 issuing a citation for a violation of this Act unless certain conditions are met; and
7 generally relating to prohibiting standing in inherently dangerous roadways,
8 shoulders, median dividers, or intersections in Wicomico County.

9 BY adding to
10 Article – Transportation
11 Section 21–507.1
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
15 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article – Transportation**

17 **21–507.1.**

18 **(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY IN WICOMICO COUNTY.**

19 **(B) IN THIS SECTION, “INHERENTLY DANGEROUS” MEANS POSING A**
20 **SERIOUS RISK OF INJURY TO A PEDESTRIAN, A DRIVER OR PASSENGER IN A VEHICLE,**
21 **OR OTHER PERSONS THAT CANNOT BE MITIGATED WITH THE EXERCISE OF**
22 **ORDINARY CARE.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(C) A PERSON MAY NOT STAND IN A ROADWAY, SHOULDER, MEDIAN**
2 **DIVIDER, OR INTERSECTION DETERMINED BY THE COUNTY OR A MUNICIPAL**
3 **CORPORATION IN THE COUNTY TO BE INHERENTLY DANGEROUS.**

4 **(D) A POLICE OFFICER MAY NOT ISSUE A CITATION FOR A VIOLATION OF**
5 **THIS SECTION UNLESS:**

6 **(1) THE INHERENTLY DANGEROUS ROADWAY, SHOULDER, MEDIAN**
7 **DIVIDER, OR INTERSECTION HAS APPROPRIATE SIGNS INSTALLED THAT NOTIFY THE**
8 **PUBLIC THAT A PERSON MAY NOT STAND IN VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION; AND**

9 **(2) THE SIGNS ARE INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MANUAL**
10 **AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR A UNIFORM SYSTEM OF TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES**
11 **ADOPTED BY THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION UNDER § 25-104 OF THIS**
12 **ARTICLE.**

13 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June**
14 **1, 2026.**