



SafeRoadsMD

PLEASE SUPPORT SB 115
“Motor Vehicles – Automated Speed
Enforcement – Improper Registration”

MARYLAND COALITION FOR ROADWAY SAFETY, INC. URGES MD SENATE JPR COMMITTEE SUPPORT FOR SB 115

January 26, 2026

TO:

Honorable Senator William C. Smith, Chair
Honorable Senator Jeff Waldstreicher, Vice Chair
Judicial Proceedings Committee
Maryland General Assembly
2 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

FROM:

John Seng, Chair
SafeRoadsMD - Maryland Coalition for Roadway Safety, Inc.
(202) 468-7682, JSeng@SafeRoadsMD.org
SafeRoadsMD.org

**Subject: Asking Your Support for SB 115 “Motor Vehicles – Automated Speed
Enforcement – Improper Registration”**

Dear Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher and Members of the Maryland Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee:

I am writing to urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 115 and to express my strong support for its passage.

SB 115 addresses a problem that is both well known and deeply unfair: Maryland residents who deliberately register their vehicles in Virginia to avoid Maryland taxes, fees, and accountability—and then compound that misconduct by speeding on Maryland roads while assuming they can escape meaningful consequences.

This bill closes that loophole.

SB 115 requires the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration to work directly with the Commonwealth of Virginia to identify vehicles that are owned by Maryland residents but improperly registered in Virginia, and to make that information available for automated speed and work-zone enforcement only. That step alone restores basic fairness to a system that currently allows some drivers to game the rules while everyone else plays by them.

Maryland Coalition for Roadway Safety, Inc.
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Just as important, SB 115 establishes **significantly higher penalties** when those improperly registered vehicles are caught speeding by automated enforcement. These are not small increases. They are **intentional, deterrent-level fines** that reflect the seriousness of both the speeding violation and the underlying registration fraud. In work zones—where lives are directly at risk—the penalties are even stronger, and rightly so.

The bill is **carefully drafted and narrowly targeted**:

- It does not create new cameras.
- It does not lower enforcement thresholds.
- It does not expand surveillance.
- It applies only to Maryland residents who have knowingly chosen to improperly register their vehicles out of state.

SB 115 also improves transparency and due process by requiring clearer notice to drivers, explicitly warning them that failure to comply may lead to registration refusal or suspension—and that driving without proper registration is itself a separate violation of Maryland law.

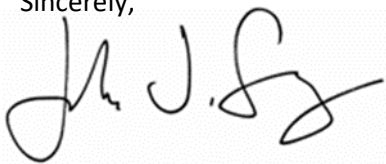
At its core, SB 115 is about accountability and equity. Law-abiding Maryland drivers should not be subsidizing or endangered by those who intentionally evade the system. Automated enforcement only works if it applies evenly. When a loophole allows some drivers to avoid consequences entirely, it undermines respect for the law and weakens safety for everyone.

SB 115 restores balance. It reinforces that **speeding is serious**, that **registration fraud is not tolerated**, and that Maryland will not allow dangerous behavior to be shielded by a license plate from another state.

I respectfully urge the Judicial Proceedings Committee to issue a **favorable report on SB 115** and move this important public-safety and fairness measure forward.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued commitment to safer Maryland roads.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John J. Seng". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being the most prominent part.

John J. Seng
Chair
Maryland Coalition for Roadway Safety, Inc.

cc: Sen. West; SafeRoadsMD Board Members