



AAA's Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 115 Motor Vehicles - Automated Speed Enforcement - Improper Registration

Sponsor: Senator West

- **AAA supports SB 115 - Motor Vehicles - Automated Speed Enforcement - Improper Registration**, which increases civil penalties for speed limit violations recorded by automated enforcement systems when the vehicle owner is a Maryland resident with a vehicle improperly registered in Virginia.
- The issue of Maryland drivers registering vehicles in Virginia has reached crisis proportions, impacting both Maryland's economy and public safety. Recent data demonstrates the severity.
- A 2024 *Report of the Public Safety, Transportation, and Environment Subcommittee To the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee*, cited **nearly 34,000 Maryland addresses linked to vehicles registered in Virginia** in early 2024, showing that the issue has been persistent for years.
- The Maryland Department of Transportation reported 101,212 Maryland vehicles registered in Virginia in November 2023, increasing to 111,102 by June 2024
- Baltimore City alone recorded 14 fatal crashes involving Virginia-registered vehicles between 2023 and 2024—approximately 10% of the city's total fatal crashes.
- A 2024 Bikemore report found that 10 "super speeders" in Baltimore accumulated 1,117 speed camera citations, owing more than \$81,000 in unpaid fines. Six of these 10 vehicles had Virginia tags.
- AAA has championed automated speed enforcement in Maryland since 2005, working with the legislature to launch Maryland's first pilot program in Montgomery County residential areas and school zones. We believe automated enforcement, when part of a comprehensive traffic safety strategy, effectively changes driver behavior.
- SB 115 is a critical step toward closing the loophole that allows Maryland residents to circumvent state laws and evade traffic safety enforcement. AAA recognizes the essential role automated enforcement plays in protecting lives and respectfully urges the Committee to issue a **favorable report** on SB 115.

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