

Please Support House Bill 938
Anne Arundel, Montgomery, and Prince George's Counties -
Crosswalk Monitoring Systems

April 1, 2026

To:

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

From:

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Dear Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my support for House Bill 938, which would authorize the use of crosswalk monitoring systems in Montgomery, Prince George's, and Anne Arundel Counties to improve pedestrian safety. Having lost my son Brett six years ago as he was crossing the street to meet some friends for dinner, this bill is particularly personal for me.



Pedestrian safety is a major concern in our Montgomery County, Prince Georges County, and Anne Arundel County communities, and across Maryland. Crosswalks are intended to provide safe areas for pedestrians to cross the street, but too often drivers illegally enter crosswalks while pedestrians are present.

I was present at the Montgomery County Delegation Bill Hearings which took place in Wheaton this past December. At the introduction of MC 10-26, Delegate Foley indicated that during observations of several crosswalks over a two hour period, 376 pedestrians were counted using those crosswalks. I was appalled to hear that **615 vehicles illegally entered those crosswalks while pedestrians were present**. These violations significantly outnumbered the pedestrians themselves, demonstrating how common this behavior has become.

I'm sure we have all personally witnessed many vehicles entering crosswalks when pedestrians are present, sometimes vehicles come within inches of the pedestrians. When this happens the results can be severe or fatal. Traditional enforcement alone cannot monitor every crosswalk where violations occur. Crosswalk monitoring systems will provide an effective tool to deter those with dangerous driving behaviors.

In 2024, 161 pedestrians and bicyclists (vulnerable road users) were killed on Maryland roadways. In 2025, with efforts by the State Highway Administration and local jurisdictions, that number dropped 35%, to 106. Although these numbers are encouraging, more needs to be done to protect our most vulnerable road users.

Evidence from other traffic safety camera programs shows that automated enforcement can reduce violations and improve safety for vulnerable road users. Crosswalk monitoring systems will be a vital tool in making crosswalks a safer place for pedestrians and bicyclists to use with confidence.

House Bill 938 and its amendments offer an important step toward stronger protection for our vulnerable road users, and I urge the committee to submit a favorable report.

Thank you for your commitment to improving road safety.

Sincerely,
Mindy Badin