



Charles County Government

CHARLES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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March 4, 2026

RE: Letter of Support for SB 921 Traffic Control Signal Monitoring and Speed Monitoring Systems - Exemptions From Liability - Vehicle Rental Companies

Dear Chairman Smith and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee:

On behalf of the Charles County Board of County Commissioners, I write to express our strong support for passage of SB 921- Traffic Control Signal Monitoring and Speed Monitoring Systems - Exemptions From Liability - Vehicle Rental Companies.

The Maryland General Assembly authorized automated school zone speed enforcement (speed cameras) and traffic control signal monitoring (red light cameras) to promote public safety on our roadways. Maryland law currently excludes certain vehicles from automated enforcement monitoring systems. Specifically, MD Transp. §21-202.1, traffic control signal monitoring systems (red light) and §21-809, speed monitoring system (speed cameras), exclude vehicles registered to rental companies, leasing companies, and dealers. In contrast, rental companies are not excluded from school bus violations (§21-706.1) and there are no exclusions for paying an automated toll (§24-1414).

Despite the similar intent behind all three forms of automated traffic enforcement (speed cameras, red light cameras, and school bus cameras), which is improving public safety on our roadways by deterring behavior violative of the law, we believe the lack of consistency undermines the intent. SB 921 corrects an obvious issue of fairness and equity, by eliminating a loophole that prevents collection of fines from rental companies, leasing companies, and dealers.

We urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 921 as legislation needed to bring consistency and fairness to automated speed and traffic control processes in our jurisdiction and throughout the State of Maryland.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "RC".

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq. President

cc: Charles County Delegation