

SB 173: Vehicle Laws - Automated Enforcement - Reciprocal Agreements, Arrangements, and
Declarations

Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

FAVORABLE

January 21, 2026

Chair Smith and Committee Members,

I support SB 173 because it will improve safety for road users — drivers and passengers, pedestrians, and bicyclists – by enhancing the enforcement of, and accountability to, regional traffic laws. Currently, Maryland drivers can rack up hundreds, sometimes thousands of dollars in tickets from Washington, DC, and yet, some drivers ignore citations they have received and continue their dangerous driving practices despite being captured by automated traffic enforcement. SB 173 is a step in the right direction to making it safer for everyone to get around by holding dangerous drivers accountable.

I applaud Maryland's goal to reduce and prevent motor vehicle deaths. As we work towards all of the elements required to achieve a safe system on our roadways, enforcement of traffic laws can play a significant role in deterring and holding accountable dangerous drivers who speed, do not abide by traffic laws, and are not aware of and do not look out for other, more vulnerable road users.

The use of cameras to monitor speed and traffic controls, allows for non-biased monitoring systems without the need for significantly increased staff, which would be required to conduct solely in-person police traffic stops. Despite the intention of these automated cameras to improve the safety of drivers' behaviors, some drivers ignore citations they receive outside their home state and are not penalized. When drivers do not face consequences for dangerous driving, they are less incentivized to improve their driving behavior.

SB 173 will allow the Maryland administration to enact reciprocity agreements for driving violations caught by automated enforcement with Washington, DC and other jurisdictions and will encourage drivers with a record of dangerous behavior to improve their driving by requiring them to would authorize the administration to deny vehicle re-/registration.

SB 173 will improve the safety of our streets and roads and will disincentivize dangerous driving across state lines, improving the experience of people trying to get around the DMV. I urge a favorable SB 173 committee report and Senate floor vote.

Thank you,

Kalli Krumpos
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