Maryland Chiefs of Police Association
Maryland Sheriffs' Association

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr., Chair and
Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Darren Popkin, Executive Director, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee
Andrea Mansfield, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee
Samira Jackson, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee

DATE: February 12, 2026

RE: **SB 487 - Motor Vehicles – Speed Monitoring Systems – Safety Corridors (Vulnerable Road User Protection Act of 2026)**

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) **SUPPORT SB 487,** which authorizes the expansion of speed monitoring systems in designated safety corridors, particularly those identified as high risk to vulnerable road users such as pedestrians and bicyclists. This legislation permits the State Highway Administration and local jurisdictions to deploy modern, evidence-based traffic safety tools to address speeding, a leading factor in serious and fatal crashes across our roadways. Speed monitoring systems enhance enforcement and serve as a deterrent where traditional patrol resources are unable to always be present, helping to slow traffic in critical zones near schools, work zones, and densely traveled pedestrian areas.

From a law enforcement perspective, safer speeds save lives. The statistics on Maryland roadway accidents undeniably prove that safer speeds save lives. Excessive speed not only increases the likelihood of a crash, but also the severity of injuries when crashes occur. SB 487 gives communities a proactive option to reduce dangerous driving behavior and protect those most at risk without diverting essential policing resources away from other public safety priorities. We appreciate this balanced and data-driven approach to traffic safety, and for these reasons, MCPA and MSA **SUPPORT SB 487** and urge a **FAVORABLE** committee report.

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