

HB0367: Vehicle Laws - Stop Sign Monitoring Systems - Authorization Environment and Transportation Committee Washington Area Bicyclist Association - FAVORABLE

February 14, 2023

Chair Barve and members of the Environment and Transportation Committee,

The Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA) is an advocacy organization with 1,300 Maryland members and many other Maryland supporters and partners. My name is Seth Grimes, WABA's Maryland organizer, testifying on behalf of the organization.

WABA supports HB0367, which would authorize a local jurisdiction to install a Stop sign monitoring system. Net penalty revenues would be directed to complete-streets or pedestrian-safety programs. The bill directs that penalties be instituted in proportion to the offending vehicle owner's or driver's income.

Stop sign monitoring systems would boost compliance with traffic-safety laws and signage. Installation of a camera at an intersection would improve pedestrian, bicyclist, and traffic safety at the intersection.

Jurisdictions would benefit from an additional revenue source for much-needed complete streets and pedestrian safety programs, which aim to improve transportation infrastructure and conditions. These programs are designated to receive net penalty revenue.

And current, fixed penalties have a disparate financial impact on offenders. They more significantly penaltize lower-income community members and are therefore inequitable. Income-conditioned penalties would be more equitable than current, fixed penalties.

For these reasons, the Washington Area Bicyclist Association supports HB0367. We urge a Favorable committee report and House of Delegates floor vote.

Seth Grimes, Maryland organizer Washington Area Bicyclist Association seth.grimes@waba.org