



Mothers Against Drunk Driving
Maryland
www.madd.org/md

6755 Business Pkwy
Ste 309
Elkridge, MD 21075

410.964.5757 phone
1.877.madd.help
410.321.1044 fax

Lisa Spicknall
Mothers Against Drunk Driving
Testimony in Support HB 1381
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Good afternoon Mr. Chairman, members of the committee. I am Lisa Spicknall, Executive Director of Mothers Against Drunk Driving here in support of HB1381.

MADD supports this bill as it requires mandatory testing in all fatal crashes. In 2018, as reported by the Maryland Highway Safety office, there were 513 total fatal crashes on Maryland roadways. We only know of 130 that were confirmed DUI crashes, but how many more crashes could have been deemed alcohol or drug fatalities. Without mandatory testing we do not have these answers.

For years I have sat and watched as victims of potential impaired (drug and alcohol) driving crashes are heartbreakingly told that these crashes are nothing more than an accident and cannot be tried as a crime even when witnesses claim erratic driving, or other issues. We are now in a realm where drivers are using many drugs, including over the counter, that impair their driving. Its not just alcohol. These drivers knowingly get behind the wheel and put our lives at risk each and every day, and must be held accountable.

We are asking in every fatal crash drivers are mandatorily tested to ensure those that are not just merely an accident are held accountable for their actions.

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee give these families the much needed support and outcomes as apparent DUI crashes, give them the same justice.

Thank you for your time and consideration as you pass HB1381 with a favorable report.