

# **SB0553 Favorable.pdf**

Uploaded by: Marcin, Daniel

Position: FAV

SB0553: Support

Thank you to Senator Young for this bill. I am honestly surprised that Maryland does not have a “don’t block the box” law.

I ask the committee to issue a favorable report on this bill, so that we can revisit this in future years to make this stronger; for instance, we should allow automated enforcement of these infractions at all intersections, not just those with signs.

Thank you, and again, I look forward to a favorable report.

Daniel Marcin  
Economist  
District 18, Wheaton, MD

# **SB0553 - SHA - Vehicle Laws - Intersections - LOI\_**

Uploaded by: Westervelt, Patricia

Position: INFO



Larry Hogan  
Governor  
Boyd K. Rutherford  
Lt. Governor  
Gregory Slater  
Secretary

February 16, 2021

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.  
Chairman, Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East, Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis MD 21401

***Re: Letter of Information – Senate Bill 553 – Vehicle Laws – Intersections – Prohibited Acts***

Dear Chairman Smith and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) takes no position on Senate Bill 553 but offers the following information for the Committee's consideration.

Senate Bill 553 prohibits drivers from entering the intersection of a green or yellow signal if the vehicle cannot completely clear the intersection. Enforcement of the bill's provisions are contingent on signs being installed at an intersection, in accordance with standards specified in the Maryland Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

When a driver decides to enter an intersection without the ability to fully clear the intersection, it impedes the movements of other road users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and other motor vehicles. These unexpected conditions – blocked crosswalks and bike lanes – force pedestrians and bicyclists to make unpredictable movements to navigate the intersection, resulting in unsafe conditions and potential accidents and collisions.

Senate Bill 553 aims to improve pedestrian safety by reducing the likelihood of pedestrian crashes. Additionally, clarifying language enables law enforcement officials to enforce existing traffic laws concerning intersection movements.

The Maryland Department of Transportation respectfully requests the Committee consider this information as it deliberates Senate Bill 553.

Sincerely,

Mitch Baldwin  
State Legislative Manager  
Maryland State Highway Administration  
410-310-1056

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State Legislative Officer  
Maryland Department of Transportation  
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