



ABATE OF MARYLAND, INC.

Dedicated to the Freedom of the Road and Responsible Motorcycle Legislation

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Delegate Luke Clippinger, Chairman and Members of the Judiciary Committee

FROM: Chairman of the Board, Robert Spanburgh Jr., Abate of Maryland, Inc.

DATE: February 2, 2021

RE: **HB855 – Criminal Law – Life–Threatening Injury Involving a Motor Vehicle or Vessel – Criminal Negligence (Wade’s Law)**

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

As Chairman of the Board of ABATE of Maryland and on behalf of all motorcyclists in our Great State we endorse passage of House Bill 855. Representatives of our organization have testified in favor of previous legislation that would make it a must-appear situation when an individual has been killed or maimed in a motor vehicle accident. We feel that serious bodily injury and especially death from a motor vehicle accident should be added to the list of infractions that currently mandate a court appearance. The ability of a citizen to attend court proceedings and actually see the party or parties involved in the loss or disfigurement of their loved ones and family members is a fundamental right. We respectfully request a favorable report and vote from the committee for HB 855.