



Maryland Municipal League
The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

February 13, 2024

Committee: Senate Judicial Proceedings

Bill: SB 345 - Transportation - Vision Zero Advisory Commission - Establishment

Position: Favorable

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League (MML) supports Senate Bill 345 which, through the creation of the Vision Zero Advisory Committee, will significantly improve roadway safety by comprehensively studying the issue.

One critical function of local government is to promote the safe use of public rights-of-way by all users. Promoting Vision Zero and its policies has been a frequent topic when discussing potential MML priorities. In addition to the State's adoption of Vision Zero in 2019, several municipalities have also adopted local Vision Zero plans that focus on reducing fatalities on local roads.

The municipal seat on the Commission is particularly important to provide the local perspective on this issue that impacts the shared constituency of all levels of government. Specifically, the Commission's review of policies and advising state agencies on implementation is particularly impactful. Local government representatives can speak specifically to the role of local laws on implementing Vision Zero goals.

The provisions of SB 345 should significantly assist municipal governments promote roadway safety through the work of the Commission. For this reason, the League respectfully requests that the committee provide Senate Bill 345 with a favorable report.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Theresa Kuhns

Angelica Bailey Thupari, Esq.

Bill Jorch

Justin Fiore

Chief Executive Officer

Director, Advocacy & Public Affairs

Director, Public Policy & Research

Deputy Director, Advocacy & Public Affairs