



Support SB142

Bicycle Safety Task Force

Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County
P.O. Box 208, Arnold, MD 21012 www.bikeaaa.org

Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

January 23, 2017

RE: SUPPORT Senate Bill 142

Dear Chairman and Members of the Committee,

I am a resident of District 33, president of Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis and Anne Arundel County ("BikeAAA"), Chair of the recently appointed Anne Arundel County Bicycle Advisory Commission and an avid Maryland cyclist for over 20 years. On behalf of BikeAAA and its more than 700 members, I support Senate Bill 142. Maryland has a strong history of support for safe bicycling but has slipped recently in the League of American Bicyclists state ranking from #7 to #10. Safe biking is important not only for Maryland's health and environment, it is also critical for economic competitiveness as millennials favoring active transportation over cars choose places to live, work and start businesses. It is also a transportation equity concern for Marylanders for whom a bike is the only affordable option. The task force brings the right constituents together to address strategies that improve safety for all road users. The task force should focus on "The Five E's" of bike safety

- 1. Evaluation & Planning** – The right plans, policies and processes including Complete Streets
- 2. Engineering** – Provide bicycle trails, lanes and cycletracks during road construction & maintenance
- 3. Education** – Assure drivers, cyclists & pedestrians know their own and respective responsibilities and rights
- 4. Enforcement** – Assure the right laws are in place and enforced.
- 5. Encouragement** – Programs and events that encourage biking for transportation. Studies show that greater numbers of cyclists improves safety for all road users as they become a common part of the road use experience.

Safe bicycling promotes health, reduces traffic, improves the environment and stimulates economic growth. We urge your support for passage of SB142.

Sincerely,

Jon Korin

President, Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County

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