



# *Support HB11 Ban “Coal-rolling”*

*Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County  
P.O. Box 208, Arnold, MD 21012 [www.bikeaaa.org](http://www.bikeaaa.org)*

House Environment and Transportation Committee  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

January 26, 2017

**RE: SUPPORT House Bill 11**

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 House Bill 11. 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.

This bill bans a hideous and intentional practice that pollutes the air, inhibits bicycling and is potentially lethal to cyclists. It is disappointing to think that Marylanders would invest time and money to modify their trucks in order to assault other vehicles, bicyclists and pedestrians with an intentional blast of black soot. But sadly it is happening and bicyclists are targeted. In a recent local meeting of cyclists about a quarter of them raised their hands when asked who had been coal-rolled.

Safe bicycling promotes health, reduces traffic, improves the environment and stimulates economic growth. We urge your support for passage of HB11 for the protection of all residents and visitors to Maryland; especially those on bicycle or foot.

Sincerely,

Jon Korin

President, Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County

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