The Anne Arundel County Board of Education SUPPORTS Senate Bill 154 - Vehicle Laws - School Bus Monitoring Cameras - Civil Penalty. This bill would set the civil penalty for a violation recorded by a school bus monitoring camera for failure to stop for a school vehicle operating alternately flashing red lights at $250.

As stated in the fiscal note, a one-day survey of bus drivers conducted by the Maryland State Department of Education in April 2016, found 4,326 incidents involving vehicles passing a stopped school bus with its flashing red lights illuminated, a significant increase over the 2,795 incidents found in the previous year’s survey. Anne Arundel County Public Schools supports Senate Bill 154 because it promotes safety for our students while on school buses. We believe that increased penalties for failure to stop for a school vehicle operating alternately flashing red lights diminish such instances. The passage of Senate Bill 154 is a step in the right direction to help ensure student safety.

Accordingly, the Anne Arundel County Board of Education respectfully requests a FAVORABLE committee report on Senate Bill 154.