



**Position: Oppose**

**2/27/2023**

Dear **Chairman Barve and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:**

B-360 requests that the Committee issue an unfavorable report on HB928. My name is Brittany Young and I am the founder of B-360 which exists at the unlikely intersection of three lanes; unrecognized potential, dirt bike culture, and STEM education. B-360's mission is to utilize dirt bike culture to end the cycle of poverty, disrupt the prison pipeline, and build bridges in communities. The organization works to shift street riders out of traffic into programming, safe spaces, and opportunities around their love of dirt bikes and skills. Leaders work with all stakeholders, including students, riders, communities, policymakers and elected officials, and law enforcement to create equitable solutions that work for all. In March 2022 we launched a campaign for the first ever dirt bike campus which will allow safe riding, training and education to happen in one location.

Last year we testified against HB077 which was successfully ended and appreciated the committee listening to our testimony. You recommended a working group be formed to holistically look at OHV issues for the State which I was eager to join. To my dismay, the committee was never formed and here we are again a little over a year later with another ill placed bill, and a reminder that we must stay vigilant and active in creating real solutions.

When we reference solutions, I want to make sure it is clear , B-360 advocates for those who want to ride safely and is in favor of options that allow people to have access to safe methods of riding, spaces to grow their recreation and the opportunity to excel. However, we can not simply bandaid solutions or single out groups based on riding in city streets as opposed to



riding on farm/rural roads - both are illegal. A solution has to be equitable and makes sure that enforcement will happen for either group as well as the opportunity to allow safe recreation.

I oppose this bill because of the redundancy as well as the unclear approach to a solution; counties and municipalities can already regulate their road ways to address OHV issues. As written, this bill only has consequences for riders through impoundment ( without a defined process), no precedent of registration fees, and overall has too much process that is not outlined and left to the imagination. The bill says you have to register the vehicle, have it impounded or whatever other punishment will come with that. For people that do not have the means to register their bikes but also do not ride in streets what does this leave them with? Another way to be for not having access and another reminder that even though they are a constituent, they have no voice. Bills like these, no matter how well intended create inequity, do not address root causes as well as make clear definitions and incentives for doing things the right way. Furthermore, once registration fees are collected, the bill does not place fees into a fund that can help create safe riding areas which are a priority for the state.

When I look at solutions, I lean into the work we have done in Baltimore by engaging 9000+ youth and young adults to not ride in traffic and securing educational advances, diverting 57 young adults from incarceration to careers and our efforts to raise \$10.5M to have dedicated spaces to grow holistically while working to get riders out of streets. We have been prominent in advocating for safety, understanding the needs of law enforcement, of community members and making strides as an organization. I am joined in this vision with cities counties like Garrett and Allegany County and their introduction of HB114 and cities like Shamokin, PA. Solution



oriented approaches are not nuisance because the idea of undoing barriers can be a hurdle the State of Maryland can join us to overcome.

For the sake of those we advocate for, and the best interest of the state as a whole, I hope this will be my last time in opposition to a bill and that my testimony does not go unnoticed. My hope is for inclusive and just policies that allow us to be safe for now and the future and allow holistic approaches. Since 2017, we have been rewriting a narrative and on the right side of tangible outcome and working with all stakeholders to create a better Maryland. I can not stand in support of any legislation that will further incriminate Black people, poor people, and people who do not have access.

For these reasons, Brittany Young urge an unfavorable report on **HB928**.

*Brittany Young*

-Brittany Young



**Environmental and Transportation Committee**

House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street, Room 251  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**Testimony on HB928  
Motor Vehicles - Operation of Dirt Bikes - Prohibited Acts  
Criminalizing Riding Dirt Bikes**

**Position: Oppose**

**2/27/2023**

Dear **Chairman Barve and Members of the Energy and Transportation Committee:**

I respectfully request that the Committee issue an unfavorable report on HB928. My name is Daron Harrel and I am 16 years old and a participant of the B-360 program and a part of the Junior Instructor of youth dirt bike riders; we work with younger students to teach mechanics, STEM and rider safety throughout Baltimore City. You may have seen me on the Kelly Clarkson Show, Steve Harvey TV, or doing a press conference with Mayor Brandon Scott during B-360 Day to celebrate our work.

Maybe you heard Steve mention how “higher paying STEM jobs are becoming more and more popular, [and yet] less than 10% of the STEM workforce is black... [and B-360] aims to change all that.” I hope you heard Ms. Young explain how dirtbike riders are natural engineers, self-taught STEM professionals as many of them build and repair their dirt bikes on their own and learn how to ride their bikes so safely they can commit stunts the envy of Evel Knievel. I don't know who that is, but I was told you would get it. I hope you also get that HB928 is not favorable to my growth and development as a young Black man in Baltimore city or the state of Maryland. As written, the bill says we must get a registration from our city but does not mention



anything other than fines and imprisonment if we do not. This will lead to more interactions with law enforcement. Also last year we testified against HB077 and thought we would see real changes in the state to make sure our rights as riders are protected and heard. I am not a criminal but the way these bills are written, it is clear how you all view me and others who are doing the right things and in need of safe spaces, access and protection. Many dirt bike riders ride on the streets because they have nowhere else to ride. Did you know that you used to be able to see families get together on the weekend in Baltimore city at parks like Druid Hill park and watch Baltimore's dirt bike riders ride? I never saw it because in the early 2000s Baltimore city made riding dirt bikes illegal in city parks. What I have seen is as a result of being forced out of these once safe spaces to ride, dirt bike riders were only left with the streets and so that's where they went. What I have seen is poorly considered laws backfire on themselves sputtering at the exhaust pipe. What I hope you see is me and my words and most of all why this committee should not let HB928 pass. I also learned that Maryland counties have passed bills allowing them to ride to safe spaces; HB928 is not needed to make the change we need.

I oppose this bill because I believe this bill will lead to the unjust incarceration of more black lives, has only consequences with no clear outline of steps to become legal and is repetitive of what counties can already do on their own. I hope one day my voice is heard so we can stop having to miss school or write these testimonies that so far have gone unheard. I am a dirt bike rider who does not ride in traffic, an inspiring mechanic and more than a criminal simply because I enjoy dirt bikes.

For these reasons, Daron Harrel urge an unfavorable report on **HB928**.



CARVING OUT A NEW LANE, ONE WHEELIE AT A TIME

Sincerely,

Daron Harrel

*Daron Harrel*





**Environmental and Transportation Committee**

House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street, Room 251  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**Testimony on HB928  
Motor Vehicles - Prohibited Acts  
Criminalizing Riding Dirt Bikes**

**Position: Oppose**

**2/27/2023**

Dear **Chairman Barve and Members of the Energy and Transportation Committee:**

I respectfully request that the Committee issue an unfavorable report on HB928. My name is Tristan Tremble and I am 15 years old and a participant of the B-360 program and a part of the Junior Instructors/ You may have seen me in the profile the Kelly Clarkson, The Today Show, Press Conferences with Mayor Brandon Scott and Steve Harvey TV. I believe that HB928 will young black people like me that just want to ride somewhere safe. Many dirt bike riders ride on the streets because they have nowhere else to ride. I oppose this bill because I believe this bill will lead to the unjust incarceration of more black lives simply for riding dirt bikes, a known leisure activity in the Black community that is unfairly given a violent criminal narrative when it actually has an anti-violence culture.

For these reasons, I, Tristan Tremble urge an unfavorable report on **HB928**.

Sincerely,

-Tristan Tremble

*Tristan Tremble*



**Environmental and Transportation Committee**

House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street, Room 251  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**Testimony on HB928  
Motor Vehicles - Operation of Dirt Bikes - Prohibited Acts  
Criminalizing Riding Dirt Bikes**

**Position: Oppose**

2/27/2023

Dear **Chairman Barve and Members of the Energy and Transportation Committee:**

I respectfully request that the Committee issue an unfavorable report on HB928. My name is Treasure Tremble and I am 14 years old, Tristan Tremble's twin sister and a participant of the B-360 program and a part of the "B-360 Bunch" our group of youth dirt bike riders. I oppose this bill because I believe this bill will lead to the unjust incarceration of more black lives simply for riding dirt bikes, a known leisure activity in the Black community that is unfairly given a violent criminal narrative when it actually has an anti-violence culture.

For these reasons, Treasure Tremble urge an unfavorable report on **HB928**.

Sincerely,

-Treasure Tremble

*Treasure Tremble*



**Environmental and Transportation Committee**

House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street, Room 251  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**Testimony on HB928  
Motor Vehicles - Operation of Dirt Bikes - Prohibited Acts  
Criminalizing Riding Dirt Bikes**

**Position: Oppose**

**2/28/2023**

Dear **Chairman Barve and Members of the Energy and Transportation Committee:**

I respectfully request that the Committee issue an unfavorable report on HB928. My name is Tony Saunders, Jr. and I am 16 years old and a part of the “B-360 Bunch” B-360’s group of youth dirt bike riders. You may have seen me on the Kelly Clarkson show, or the Today show or most recently with Steve Harvey on his STEVE on Watch show. I believe that HB928 will imprison young black people like me that just want to ride somewhere safe. Many dirt bike riders ride on the streets because they have nowhere else to ride. I oppose this bill because I believe this bill will lead to the unjust incarceration of more black lives simply for riding dirt bikes, a known leisure activity in the Black community that is unfairly given a violent criminal narrative when it actually has an anti-violence culture.

For these reasons, I, Tony Saunders, Jr. urge an unfavorable report on **HB928**.

Sincerely,

-Tony Saunders, Jr.

*Tony Saunders, Jr*



CARVING OUT A NEW LANE, ONE WHEELIE AT A TIME



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