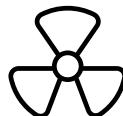


## PROBLEM:



Black drivers are stopped more than other drivers—in nearly every county. Police often use minor violations as excuses to pull people over. A dim license plate should not be a reason to stop someone.



## HARM: UNEQUAL POLICING ACROSS MARYLAND

### WHITE DRIVERS

57% of drivers | 25% of tickets

### BLACK DRIVERS

30% of drivers | 57% of tickets

## MINOR VIOLATIONS, MAJOR CONSEQUENCES

Black drivers are nearly 2x as likely to be stopped for non-safety violations like a dim license plate. Police are more likely to use force during these stops:

White drivers: 1.9x more likely

Black drivers: 2.9x more likely

Latine drivers: 2.4x more likely



## SOLUTION:

### PASS HB81/SB55

HB81/SB55 makes 6 minor violations "secondary." This means police can't use one of these violations to pull you over. They can only cite you for one if they've already stopped you for a real safety violation like speeding.

HB81/SB55 makes the following secondary violations:

1. Registration expired for less than 4 months
2. Expired registration sticker
3. One operating headlight
4. Missing or dim license plate light
5. One side-view mirror missing (with something hanging from rear mirror)
6. Window tint

Contact: [Elizabeth.Hilliard@maryland.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Hilliard@maryland.gov), (443) 507-8414

Elizabeth Hilliard, Esq. Director of Government Relations



The Maryland Office of the Public Defender is the largest criminal defense firm in the State. Since 1972, we have been the state's foremost advocates for securing justice, protecting civil rights, and preserving liberty. Our work spans criminal, juvenile, parental defense, and involuntary commitment proceedings.

## CONNECT WITH US

[www.opd.state.md.us](http://www.opd.state.md.us)

 @MarylandOPD

 @Maryland\_OPD

 @Maryland\_OPD