



M. Jodi Rell
GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

**Testimony of
Governor M. Jodi Rell**

Presented to the Transportation Committee

**In support of:
Committee Bill # 5262: *AN ACT CONCERNING THE
IMPOUNDMENT OF VEHICLES USED FOR ILLEGAL STREET
RACING***

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Senator DeFronzo, Representative Guerrero, Senator Boucher, Representative Scribner and honorable Committee members, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Committee Bill #5262.

Enhancing public safety has been paramount in my administration. Illegal street racing endangers pedestrians and drivers and we all remember the hit and run tragedy in New Haven this summer that resulted in the death of a spectator of an illegal race.

In Committee Bill #5262 I see a creative means of increasing the safety of Connecticut roads. This bill seeks to reduce incidents of street racing by hitting the reckless driver where it hurts - in the pocket. A combination of motor vehicle violation fees and storage fees that result from impounding the car, not to mention the loss of the car for 30 days, have proven effective deterrents to illegal street racing in other areas and for that reason I am supporting the bill.

I thank Representative Robles for initially proposing this bill, the Committee for having the wisdom to raise it as a Committee Bill and for affording it a public hearing today.