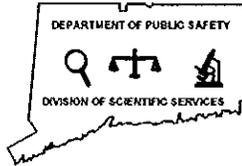




STATE OF CONNECTICUT



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

John A. Danaher III  
Commissioner

Lieutenant Edwin S. Henion  
Chief of Staff

March 6, 2009

Rep. Antonio Guerrero, Co-Chairman  
Sen. Donald J. DeFronzo, Co-Chairman  
Transportation Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106

**HB 6393 AN ACT CONCERNING TRANSPORTATION, MOTOR VEHICLES, HIGHWAY SAFETY  
AND SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND**

*The Department of Public Safety supports installation and use of an automatic traffic safety camera system.*

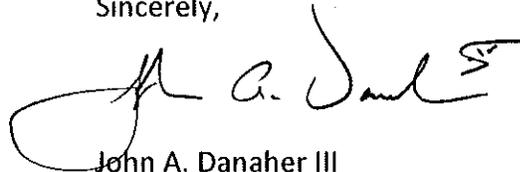
The Department of Public Safety would like to thank the Honorable Governor M. Jodi Rell for her proposal to implement automated speed enforcement technology as part of the department's overall highway safety strategy. The agency believes that utilizing this speed enforcement technology will have several positive effects. Foremost, it will help to ensure that Connecticut's speed limits are complied with and to restore a sense of order to our limited access highways. It will also help reduce motor vehicle crashes and reduce insurance property damage and medical fees in which speed is the principal contributing factor to injury severity. Passage of the bill will also result in additional revenue to state's general fund.

The selected use of automated speed detection devices on Connecticut's highways will permit state troopers to be redeployed from traditional speed enforcement operations and allow them to focus on other aggressive forms of driving behavior, such as following too closely and unsafe lane changes by motorists.

In 2008, the State of Arizona implemented a similar automated speed enforcement campaign program along its limited access highways. In the first 2 months of the operation, the state ticketed 40,401 motorists and provided their general fund with 6.6 million dollars in revenue. In 2007 the Connecticut State Police issued a total of 66,855 speeding infractions for the entire year. In 2007, the State of Arizona conducted a nine month pilot trial, utilizing automated speed cameras and reported a 63% reduction in motor vehicle crashes. Injuries were down 48% and the speed cameras were credited with saving 16.5 million dollars in medical and property claims. A public opinion poll was conducted by Arizona residents in January of 2009, in which 61% of Arizona residents supported the use of automated speed enforcement cameras along Arizona's limited access highways.

The Department of Public Safety believes that automated speed camera enforcement is a worthwhile endeavor. This technology should be viewed as a tool to assist and aid our agency's efforts to ensure the safety of the motoring public. Just as radar is a technological tool used to help enforcement of speeding laws, automated speed enforcement cameras present an opportunity to use technology to make our highways safer. Use of this technology is not intended to replace or diminish the presence of state troopers along our highways. Rather, it will complement their efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Danaher III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "D".

John A. Danaher III  
COMMISSIONER  
Department of Public Safety