



TESTIMONY
of the
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
to the
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

March 4, 2009

CCM is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local governments - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 93% of Connecticut's population.

CCM appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony on Committee Senate Bill 149 "An Act Concerning The Installation of Red Light Cameras by Municipalities."

S.B 149 would allow municipalities to install red light cameras at intersections to deter motor vehicle operators from going through red lights while also allowing the municipality to issue tickets to the operators of those vehicles.

CCM supports the concept of this proposal but offers the following amendments:

- Section 1(f) would require that any municipality that voluntarily decides to install red light cameras, pay one-half of any fine collected to the State Treasurer to be deposited in the Special Transportation Fund. CCM asks the Committee to amend this section to ***allow municipalities to retain one hundred percent of all the revenue*** collected through the installation of red light cameras.
- Section 2(a) would require municipalities that choose to install red light cameras to establish by ordinance a traffic control signal violation hearing procedure. Subsection 2(b) would require municipalities to appoint one or more traffic control signal violation hearing officers, other than police officers or persons who work in the police department, to conduct the hearings authorized in subsection 2(a). Towns recognize the need for an appeals process but ask the committee to allow municipalities the authority to implement such a program in a manner that best fits the needs of their community. Effective and efficient use of such technology requires a degree of flexibility for local officials to determine which policies and procedures work best for their communities. ***CCM urges the Committee to allow municipalities to have the sole authority of implementing and overseeing the program.***

CCM urges the Committee to ***amend*** S.B 149 to allow municipalities that install red light cameras through the local option provision in section 1(b) of this proposal, (a) be permitted to retain all revenue collected, (b) be allowed to have the sole authority of implementing and overseeing the program, and (c) be free to implement the program at their discretion and as they see fit for their specific community's needs.

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If you have any questions, please contact Donna Hamzy, Legislative Analyst
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