



**CITY OF NEW HAVEN
BOARD OF ALDERMEN**

Justin Elicker
Alderman, 10th Ward

192 Willow Street
New Haven, CT 06511-2531

Chair
City Services and Environmental Policy Committee
Finance Committee
Human Services Committee

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February 14, 2011

Re:
Proposed S.B. No. 706 AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL INTERSECTION SAFETY SYSTEMS.
Proposed S.B. No. 822 AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE USE OF PHOTOGRAPHIC TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT TECHNOLOGY.
Proposed H.B. No. 6178 AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE USE OF TRAFFIC CAMERAS BY MUNICIPALITIES.
Proposed H.B. No. 6179 AN ACT AUTHORIZING MUNICIPALITIES TO OPERATE INTERSECTION SAFETY CAMERA SYSTEMS.

Dear Senator Maynard, Representative Guerrero and members of the Transportation Committee,

I write to you today to respectfully request your support for Intersection Safety Systems.

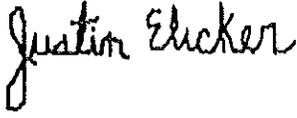
Like most Connecticut municipalities, New Haven faces serious problems with speeding, dangerous driving and the running of red lights. Driving behaviors in our city have degraded to such a degree that it is threatening the safety of our streets, keeping our children from playing outside and significantly reducing our quality of life as drivers, walkers and cyclists.

The most frequent complain I receive from my constituents is of speeding and dangerous driving. When nearly every resident (and I do not exaggerate) believes their quality of life and safety are effected by dangerous driving and red light running in our neighborhoods, it is imperative that our local and state governmental bodies do their utmost to correct the problem.

There are those that have expressed concerns about the implementation side of intersection safety cameras. Will the cameras invade our privacy? Are they a scheme to raise money? Will they profile particular individuals? These are important concerns to address. But we, as policy makers must underscore that details cannot preclude us from moving forward policies that will greatly improve the safety of our neighborhoods. Let us roll up our sleeves and craft the act to address these concerns. Let us not let these details prevent us from shouldering our greater duty.

I ask you to give New Haven and other municipalities the tools to appropriately and fairly enforce the law by allowing Connecticut municipalities to install and implement Intersection Safety Systems. In a time when our state and municipalities are deep in budgetary crises, facing sacrifice after sacrifice, I urge you to seize this opportunity to move forward something positive and improve the safety of our neighborhoods and our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Justin Elicker". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

JUSTIN ELICKER
Alderman, 10th Ward