



March 12, 2012

From: Garry Lapidus, PA-C, MPH
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To: Transportation Committee

Re: *House Bill 5458, An Act Concerning Municipal Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Devices at Certain Intersections*

I am testifying in support of House Bill 5458 that would improve road safety and reduce traffic related injury among Connecticut children and families.

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety studied the effects of red light camera enforcement on fatal crashes. Their study revealed that fatal crash rates at signalized intersections decreased by 14% for cities with camera programs, and actually increased slightly by 2% for cities without from 2004-2008. They concluded that if you wish to reduce fatal crashes at signalized intersections, you should consider red light camera enforcement.

We suggest that with this bill the committee include the requirement that intersections with red light camera enforcement feature prominent signage to alert motorists of the enforcement on approach to the intersection. Motor vehicle crash data and violation data should be collected and analyzed to determine the law's impact in our state.

In 2009, intersection or intersection-related crashes resulted in 7,358 deaths nationwide. We support the use of traffic cameras in our state because they will reduce fatal and serious motor vehicle crashes at red light intersections.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony in support of House Bill 5458.

Reference

Hu W, McCartt AT, Teoh ER. "Effects of Red Light Camera Enforcement on Fatal Crashes in Large US Cities." Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. February 2011. www.iihs.org