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Statement

Insurance Association of Connecticut

Judiciary Committee

April 1, 2013

HB 6639, An Act Concerning The Use Of An Automated Number
Plate Recognition System

The Insurance Association of Connecticut, IAC, has concerns with HB 6639, An Act Concerning The Use Of An Automated Number Plate Recognition System, as it unclear for what purposes such automated number plate recognition system may be used.

HB 6639 simply states that of the intended uses of such recognition systems is to permit law enforcement to ensure compliance with any municipal ordinance and state law. The IAC is strongly opposed to permitting the use of any the license plate recognition system for insurance verification purposes. The insurance industry already provides the insured status of private passenger motor vehicles to the Department of Motor Vehicles, DMV. This is a system that has been functioning for decades and is updated to adapt to changing technology. The current system is a minimally intrusive process, yet it remains a costly endeavor for the industry which requires ongoing capital and administrative outlays each month for monitoring and compliance.

The industry has not seen a license plate recognition system that does not contain overly burdensome requirements, including daily data dump and exhaustive list of required information. Additionally, the extent of the information required typically involves highly sensitive private information to be shared with a vendor without any privacy safeguards or limitation on what the vendor can do with it. Implementation and continued operation of such systems would be an expensive endeavor for the insurance industry. However, the true cost of such systems would be borne by the insured driving population of Connecticut through increased insurance premiums and defending against false charges.

Should HB 6639 proceed, use of any such system for enforcing insurance compliance should be specifically excluded.