

## State of Maryland Department of State Police

Government Affairs Unit Annapolis Office (410) 260-6100

## POSITION ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION

DATE: February 29, 2024

BILL NUMBER: House Bill 1001 POSITION: Letter of Information

BILL TITLE: Motor Vehicles – Automated Enforcement Programs – Privacy

**Protections** 

## **REVIEW AND ANALYSIS**

This legislation restricts the use of recorded images captured by automated enforcement systems to use only for an appropriate traffic enforcement purpose. An agency shall immediately remove from its records and destroy any recorded image or associated data captured under the automated program.

Currently, the Department of State Police (DSP) works with our partners at the Maryland Department of Transportation for the collection of images collected by a Work Zone Speed Camera System. DSP is responsible for the review and approval of civil citations issued for violations.

In the Governor's Administration Bill to protect workers in work zones (HB 513), the bill provides for an enhanced penalty for second or subsequent speeding violations within a work zone. House Bill 1001 requires the immediate removal of recorded images and associated data captured by the program once all avenues of adjudication are exhausted, which will remove the record of a previous violation for purposes of the enhanced penalty. House Bill 1001 would eliminate the ability of the Work Zone program to issue an enhanced penalty for vehicles that commit multiple violations.

House Bill 1001, by mandating that images can only be used for traffic enforcement, restricts a valid tool used by law enforcement to identify vehicles used in crimes or other offenses. Operationally, these cameras capture vehicle make and tag information. It also captures the location of the violation. The cameras do not capture the interior of the vehicle or driver. This legislation could negatively impact law enforcement agencies that may have a photo of a speeding vehicle or a vehicle running a red light near the scene of a major crime or other incident. Legitimate criminal investigations will be negatively impacted by the passage of this legislation.