

Maryland Municipal League

The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

February 9, 2023

Committee: House Environment and Transportation

Bill: HB 139 - Speed Monitoring Systems - Municipal Corporations - Statements and

Certificates of Violation

Position: Support

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League supports House Bill 139, which will significantly reduce the burden on municipal police agencies to certify and properly issue citations for speed camera violations. Specifically, the bill would allow municipalities with police agencies to designate another employee as the official responsible for certifying and issuing speed camera citations.

Currently, municipalities with police agencies must use a police officer to review speed camera images, certify their veracity, and issue a citation to the owner of the vehicle. However, municipalities without a police agency are permitted to designate an employee to perform these same duties pertaining to the issuance of speed camera citations. This bill simply expands that discretion to municipalities with police agencies.

Granting this authority to all municipalities will increase the efficiency of the review of speed camera images and increase the effectiveness of municipal police agencies. By freeing police officers from the responsibility of reviewing and certifying speed camera citations, those officers are now available to conduct their other duties. The designated employee should become more efficient at reviewing and issuing citations and will go through the same training for this review process.

The new authority provided in HB 139 should significantly assist municipalities administer their speed camera program more effectively. For this reason, the League respectfully requests that this committee provide House Bill 139 with a favorable report.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Theresa Kuhns Chief Executive Officer

Angelica Bailey Thupari, Esq. Director, Advocacy & Public Affairs

Bill Jorch Director, Public Policy

Justin Fiore Deputy Director, Advocacy & Public Affairs