



Maryland Municipal League
The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

March 20, 2025

Committee: House Environment and Transportation Committee

Bill: SB 390 - Motor Vehicles - Speed Monitoring Systems - Statements and Certificates of Violations

Position: Support

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League (MML) supports Senate Bill 390, as amended, which will promote roadway safety by improving the efficiency and efficacy of local speed camera programs. The bill adds technicians as individuals who may review speed camera images and sign citations sent to vehicle owners and clarifies that citations signed by technicians are admissible in court. SB 390 also defines “reasonable training” and sets a training floor which currently does not exist. The bill assists local governments with flexibility on the review of speed camera images but does not require that a local government use a technician, a police officer is still authorized to do so.

Adding trained technicians as an option for municipal governments to use for back-end review of speed camera images helps in two primary ways:

1. For municipalities without a police department, this change allows for the entire speed camera process to be done in house. Currently, municipalities without a police department must find a benevolent neighboring police department to take on the review portion of the process. This can often be difficult and costly; only three municipalities without a police department operate speed cameras.
2. For municipalities with a police department, this change provides an option to relieve officers of the administrative task of reviewing speed camera images, acting as a force multiplier. The technician would remain an employee of the police department but their role would allow the officers to resume more typical public safety duties.

Police officers receive training on how to properly analyze speed camera images and the ancillary data and technicians would receive the same training. In fact, technicians have been authorized to review red-light camera images since 1997. The amended language defining “reasonable training” assures consistency in this area.



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In 2009, the General Assembly first authorized state-wide use of speed cameras and provided significant revisions in 2014; it has been 15 years since they were first authorized, and it is time to ask whether more changes are needed.

For these reasons, the Maryland Municipal League respectfully requests a favorable report on Senate Bill 390. For more information, please contact Bill Jorch, Director, Public Policy and Research at billj@mdmunicipal.org. Thank you for your consideration

The Maryland Municipal League uses its collective voice to advocate, empower and protect the interests of our 160 local governments members and elevates local leadership, delivers impactful solutions for our communities, and builds an inclusive culture for the 2 million Marylanders we serve.

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