



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

TESTIMONY

February 21, 2025

Committee: House Environment and Transportation Committee

Bill: HB 644 - Vehicle Laws - Speed Monitoring Systems - Residential Districts

Position: Favorable

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League supports HB 644, which would allow local governments statewide to place speed cameras in residential districts. This expanded authority enables this proven traffic safety device to be further deployed in areas with chronic reckless driving problems and vulnerable populations.

Numerous studies have shown that the presence of speed cameras reduces vehicular speed, accidents, and serious accidents. Currently, local governments are authorized to place speed cameras in residential districts in three counties and in school zones statewide. Both of these areas are highly populated with vulnerable road users, primarily children.

One of the most frequent concerns our municipal leaders hear from their constituents is speeding in their community and speed cameras are one of the best tools to curb vehicular speeding. This bill provides the option for local governments to expand this already successful program to residential districts statewide. Not every municipality will use this tool, but having this tool as an option will allow each municipality to determine if it is the right choice for their community.

For these reasons, the Maryland Municipal League respectfully requests a favorable report on House Bill 644. 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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