

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

HB 348 Highways - Motor Vehicles - Speed Monitoring Systems - Safety Corridors

POSITION: Support

BY: Linda Kohn, LWVMD President

Date: February 21, 2025

The League of Women Voters of Maryland (LWVMD) supports the rise in revenue from the use of speed cameras on specified highways. The use of funds it generates specified in a legal manner that first covers the cost of the cameras and then designates the other funds to the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF).

We all know that Maryland must balance its budget and this is both fair to the taxpayers and the state as a form of raising revenue. Speed cameras as a form of enforcement can be effective when used appropriately and the revenue generated by that enforcement bolsters the TTF. According to the Fiscal Note, "SHA anticipates that revenues collected in any given year will fully offset its administrative costs for the program and the remaining revenues will be used for highway safety purposes and system preservation, as required by the bill."

LWVMD thinks this is a wise bill where it encourages good behavior. Lowering speeding occurrences is an admirable trait as well as using speed cameras to help enforce the current law. It combines two elements for a winning situation for the state.

LWVMD urges a favorable report on HB 348.