



Testimony in Support of House Bill 343

Motor Vehicles – Speed Monitoring System - Statements and Certificates of Violations

Environment and Transportation Committee

Submitted by Chief Linwood C. Alston, City of Mount Rainier Police Department

Date: February 21, 2025

Good afternoon, Chairman Korman, and members of the Committee,

I am Chief Linwood Alston of the City of Mount Rainier Police Department, and I submit this testimony in strong support of House Bill 343. This legislation is a critical step toward enhancing the efficiency, integrity, and effectiveness of speed monitoring systems in Maryland, ultimately contributing to public safety on our roadways.

Speeding remains one of the leading causes of traffic collisions, injuries, and fatalities across the state, including in the City of Mount Rainier. Automated speed enforcement has proven to be an essential tool in our efforts to curb excessive speeding, protect pedestrians, and ensure safer streets for our residents and visitors. However, the current process of certifying speed monitoring violations can be administratively burdensome and inefficient, particularly for law enforcement agencies managing high volumes of violations while also prioritizing crime prevention and public safety operations.

House Bill 343 provides a pragmatic solution by allowing trained technicians to swear to and affirm speed monitoring violations based on recorded images. By requiring reasonable training specific to speed monitoring systems, this bill ensures that the certification process remains rigorous, accurate, and reliable while allowing law enforcement officers to allocate their time and resources more effectively.

Importantly, this legislation does not diminish law enforcement oversight; rather, it strengthens the reliability of speed monitoring enforcement by ensuring that both officers and technicians possess the necessary expertise to validate violations.

By streamlining the violation certification process and ensuring proper training for those responsible for reviewing citations, this bill will reinforce public confidence in the integrity of the system while enhancing our ability to maintain safe roadways.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to issue a favorable report on House Bill 343. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Chief Linwood Alston

City of Mount Rainier Police Department