

## FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

## OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

## HB 343 – Motor Vehicles – Speed Monitoring Systems – Statements and Certificates of Violations

**DATE:** February 21, 2025

**COMMITTEE:** House Environment and Transportation Committee

**POSITION:** Favorable

**FROM:** The Office of Frederick County Executive Jessica Fitzwater

As the County Executive of Frederick County, I urge the committee to give **HB 343 – Speed Monitoring Systems – Statements and Certificates of Violations** a favorable report.

This bill would allow local jurisdictions and municipalities to streamline the use of speed monitoring systems by permitting trained municipal personnel—along with law enforcement officers—to approve or deny speed camera citations.

Speeding through busy roads and pedestrian areas is a serious safety concern in many municipalities. Speed cameras have been proven to influence driver behavior, reducing vehicle speeds and improving safety for both pedestrians and drivers. Unfortunately, because of the current state requirement for all speed camera citations to be reviewed by a law enforcement officer, not all municipalities have access to this essential safety tool.

Currently, trained municipal personnel are allowed to approve or deny red-light and work zone speed camera citations. By expanding this authority to include speed cameras, all municipalities—including the nine in Frederick County without their own police force—will be able to implement speed cameras to enhance safety. This change would also ease the workload of county law enforcement agencies who currently handle the review of these citations.

I support this bill because it will help municipalities in Frederick County address the safety concerns of their residents more effectively, while reducing the burden on the Frederick County Sheriff's Office.

Thank you for your consideration of HB 343. I urge you to advance this bill with a favorable report.

Jessica Fitzwater, County Executive

Frederick County, MD