



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Sponsor Testimony

SENATE BILL 206-Prince George's County – Speed Monitoring Systems – Maryland Route 210 – Penalties

Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Committee:

I appreciate the opportunity to present testimony in support of Senate Bill 206.

Senate Bill 206 strengthens accountability for dangerous speeding behavior on Maryland Route 210, also known as Indian Head Highway, by authorizing—and in defined circumstances requiring—the Motor Vehicle Administration to suspend vehicle registrations when repeated speed monitoring violations go unpaid or uncontested. This legislation builds upon existing speed enforcement laws to address chronic noncompliance on one of the most hazardous roadways in our region.

Indian Head Highway has experienced persistent problems with excessive speeding, serious crashes, and preventable loss of life. Speed monitoring systems are already authorized on this corridor, but SB 206 ensures that those systems carry meaningful consequences for repeat or high-dollar violators who ignore citations and evade responsibility. Without enforcement mechanisms that ensure compliance, civil penalties alone lose their deterrent effect.

This bill is carefully tailored and includes significant due process protections. Vehicle registration suspension may occur only after notice is provided and affected vehicle owners retain the right to request a hearing through established administrative procedures. Suspension is mandatory only in clearly defined cases involving repeated unpaid violations within a 90-day period or unpaid penalties totaling \$500 or more. Registration is promptly reinstated once all overdue penalties, fees, and costs are paid.

Importantly, SB 206 does not expand speed monitoring authority or lower enforcement thresholds. It applies only to violations recorded on Maryland Route 210 in Prince George's County and targets only those individuals who repeatedly fail to respond to lawful citations. This is not about punishment for first-time mistakes—it is about addressing sustained disregard for traffic laws that place the public at risk.

The bill also promotes transparency and legislative oversight by requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to report annually to the General Assembly on registration suspensions, reinstatements, geographic distribution, and related court outcomes. This reporting ensures accountability and allows the legislature to evaluate the effectiveness and fairness of the program.

Senate Bill 206 reflects a balanced approach—one that prioritizes public safety, reinforces compliance with existing law, and respects due process. By addressing chronic speeding violations on Indian Head Highway, this bill takes a necessary step toward protecting drivers, passengers, and the surrounding community.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to give Senate Bill 206 a favorable report.

Thank you for your consideration