

SUPPORT HB 461 / HB 533 / HB 1072 / H B905

Topic: Expanding eligible use of speed cameras

Bill Patron: Del Runion / Seilbold / Carr

OVERVIEW:

These bills expand where speed cameras can be used. Currently they are limited to active school zones and work zones, seriously limited how impactful they can be despite how effective the technology is at saving lives.

Encouraging safe biking and walking is a prime strategy to reducing GHGs from the transportation sector and this issue is annually supported by VCN.

HB 1072 expands the definition of school zones to make more areas applicable and is functionally similar to HB 20 (Jones)

HB 461 requires additional signage at camera enforcement zones.

HB 533 expands speed cameras to areas with identified in VDOT's Pedestrian Safety Action Plan – it is similar to Roem's SB 336.

HB905 allows localities to place more speed cameras in the area with appropriate signage

REASONS TO SUPPORT:

- Speed Cameras are among the most effective tools for reducing traffic fatalities, especially for pedestrians. Since Fairfax County launched its program, their use has reduced speeding by 24%.
- Speed cameras do not require interaction with police officers, are more fair and less variable, and the existing launch is adequately protective of individual data. They also do not rely on an adequately trained and staffed police workforce.
- Speed is the primary factor of whether a crash will be fatal. Reducing speeding reduces crash energy and increases crash aversion. Even a few mph reduction in vehicle speed can make the difference in the fatality of a crash.



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