

MEMO OF SUPPORT

S5602 (Gounardes)/A6681 (Glick)

Allows New York City's Speed Safety Camera Program to Operate 24/7

March 2022

Title

An act to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to photo speed violation monitoring systems in school speed zones in the city of New York; and to amend chapter 189 of the laws of 2013, amending the vehicle and traffic law and the public officers law relating to establishing in a city with a population of one million or more a demonstration program implementing speed violation monitoring systems in school speed zones by means of photo devices, in relation to the effectiveness thereof.

Summary

- Section one amends section 201 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law to require the DMV to maintain records of vehicles speeding in NYC school zones at least five times within a two year period.
- Section two amends Section 510 of the vehicle and traffic law to require suspended registration of vehicles where the owner speeds in a NYC school zone at least six times within two years.
- Section three amends subdivision (a) of section 1180-b of the Vehicle and Traffic Law to eliminate time limitations for speed cameras (currently 6am-10pm on weekdays).
- Section four amends subdivision (a) of section 1180-b of the Vehicle and Traffic Law to outline procedures for camera set up, testing, and maintenance.
- Section five amends subdivision (c) of section 1180-b of the Vehicle and Traffic Law to make a conforming change.
- Section six amends subdivisions (e) and (f) of section 1180-b of the Vehicle and Traffic Law to establish a graduated fee schedule for repeated instances of speeding in a NYC school zone.

- Section seven amends section 1180-b of the Vehicle and Traffic Law to provide that the certificate charging liability for a violation of this section shall be the notice of liability.
- Section eight amends Chapter 180 of the Laws of 2013 to renew the speed camera program until July 1st, 2025.
- Section nine provides the effective date as 60 days after becoming law.

Statement of Support

Reinvent Albany supports the intent of this legislation to grant New York City greater authority over the operation of its School Speed Safety Camera program.

While we have no position on the specific penalties or procedures in the legislation, we support allowing the program to be run 24 hours a day, rather than have a time limitation set in state law. Further, while extending the program until 2025 is a good step forward, we would recommend that there be no sunset or expiration on the program so that New York City does not need to lobby Albany to continue this program in the future.

Regarding home rule issues generally, Reinvent Albany believes the state should grant localities permanent authority to:

- Set minimum speed limits;
- Create and operate automated traffic enforcement camera programs including hours of operation, number and type of cameras, locations and penalties;
- Establish Residential Parking Permit programs; and
- Use automated parking enforcement.