

Ohio House Homeland Security Committee
Proponent Testimony / HB 416 Traffic Cameras

Wednesday June 5, 2024

Chair Ghanbari, Vice Chair Plummer, Ranking Member Thomas, and members of the House Homeland Security Committee, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on House Bill 416.

I submit for your consideration that the passage of HB 416 out of the House Homeland Security Committee will be the first steps to allowing Ohio to have some control and oversight over out of state companies making large sums of money from Ohio drivers masquerading as “traffic safety.”

HB 416 will put in the requisite steps for licensing under our state and making sure Ohio is aware of who these out of state companies are issuing traffic summons (speeding tickets) to drivers and equally important is to verify these traffic cameras are accurate and calibrated on a regular basis.

If drivers are going to be ticketed after the fact with little to no due process from an out of state company, it is important for the State of Ohio to know who the companies are, and that the traffic cameras are calibrated on a regular basis to verify accuracy.

In addition to the above, I would also like to stress that a driver receiving a speeding ticket in the mail weeks after the infraction does nothing towards decreasing speed or improving safety in a community. The only way to improve safety is with a uniformed police officer issuing a citation.

Whereas a citation issued by a uniformed police officer not only improves public safety and sends a message to other drivers, but it also affords any driver that is cited the ability to dispute it in a court of law.

A traffic camera cannot replace a police officer and the main intent of these traffic cameras is to generate revenue - with much of this revenue going to out of state companies. HB 416 would curtail this and would aim to put some of the dollars fleeing our state to help law enforcement officers deal with PTSD. Which as the son of a retired police officer, I know exists.

In closing I would like to thank you for giving my above comments your full consideration and ask you please pass HB 416 out of House Homeland Security Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

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