



Mayor of Providence

Brett P. Smiley

March 11, 2025

Representative Robert Craven
Chair House Judiciary Committee
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI, 02903

Dear Chairman Craven and members of the committee

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill H5930. If passed, this bill would extend the range of school zones for the purposes of school-zone speed enforcement systems from one-quarter (1/4) mile to three-quarters (3/4) mile.

The city of Providence has utilized speed cameras since 2016, with one of their primary benefits being the ability to enforce speed limits consistently and efficiently. This is particularly important during high-traffic times, such as school drop-off and pick-up hours. When drivers are aware that their speed is being monitored, they are more likely to slow down, which helps reduce the risk of accidents and ensures safer conditions for children crossing the street.

Expanding the distance at which speed cameras can operate in relation to school zones would further enhance the safety of our children. Many children in Providence walk to and from school, and extending the camera radius to half a mile would encourage drivers to adjust their behavior when speeding through school zones. Additionally, this increased distance would allow for more strategic camera placements. Currently, the City of Providence moves its cameras every few months, but House Bill 5930 would provide the city with more flexibility in camera placement, ultimately resulting in a safer environment for our children, teachers, and parents.

I respectfully urge the committee to vote yes on this legislation.

Sincerely,


Brett P Smiley
Mayor