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From: Ethan Caya <ethancaya@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2026 12:03 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: Support for H8098 Super Speeders Accountability Act

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Dear Chair Carol Hagan McEntee and Honorable Members of the Committee,

I am writing in SUPPORT of H8098 which would allow judges to order the installation of GPS-based speed limiters in cars of people who have had their license suspended due to excessive speeding or some other cases where speeding was a factor.

I am in support of this law because it is a common sense law that directly impacts the safety of our roadways. I'm not going to pretend that most people do not speed. It is a common thing to do but this device is not going to be installed in your average person's car. It's going to be ordered to be installed in the cars of the most dangerous drivers who have proven they cannot be trusted to drive a safe speed on our shared roadways.

Some alternatives to this could be to either allow speeders to keep speeding, provide other legal limits to their driving (e.g. curfews), or suspend their license altogether. We can't allow people to continue to speed recklessly and injure people on the roads, so the first option is out. The second option may sound good on paper but it would be up to police officers to enforce those restrictions putting them at risk during traffic stops. The third option is the most drastic option but it is one that is done today. The problem with suspending licenses or removing the ability to have a license at all is that people do not follow that rule. They don't follow it because they need a car to go to work, go shopping, or other daily activities. By introducing a speed limiter, they can still drive legally but will have to do so at the mandated speed limit.

This type of speeding I am talking about is not uncommon. In 2019 alone 63% of deaths caused by crashes were speed-related. This placed Rhode Island 1st in the nation for speed related fatalities. It is a real problem and it needs a real solution.

That is why I write in SUPPORT of H8098.