



Testimony of Matt Netto, AARP Rhode Island  
**In Support of House Bill 8012**  
House Municipal Government & Housing Committee  
March 23, 2026

Chairman Casey and Members of the House Municipal Government and Housing Committee:

AARP is a nonpartisan, social mission organization with 38 million members nationwide and 125,000 members here in Rhode Island. We advocate on behalf of issues that impact older adults, and we appreciate the opportunity to support House Bill 8012, sponsored by Representative Biah.

House Bill 8012 would authorize cities and towns to adopt ordinances allowing the use of automated road safety monitoring systems (traffic cameras) to enforce certain pedestrian-related traffic violations. The systems could capture photo or video evidence of violations such as failure to yield to pedestrians, stop sign violations, or stopping in crosswalks. Municipalities could deploy the technology in specific locations including school zones, hospital zones, work zones, and intersections or roadways identified as high pedestrian-safety concern areas. Violations would carry a civil fine of \$50, assessed to the registered vehicle owner, and municipalities could contract with vendors to administer the program.

AARP supports policies that promote safer streets, traffic calming, and pedestrian protections, especially in areas where people walk to access essential services. Older adults are disproportionately vulnerable to serious injury or death in pedestrian crashes. Measures that improve driver compliance with crosswalk and stop requirements can help create safer environments for walking, something that is especially important for older residents who may walk more slowly or rely on walking for daily mobility. Deploying these tools in hospital zones, school zones, and high-risk intersections could improve safety in areas frequently used by older adults.

AARP describes a livable community as a place that enables people of all ages, abilities, incomes, and backgrounds to thrive. A livable community is safe and secure, offering choices in where to live and how to get around. Livable communities help residents maintain independence, age in place, and enjoy environments that promote health, safety, and sustainability. House Bill 8012 improves the livability of Rhode Island communities by making them more walkable and safer for all road users. For this reason, AARP Rhode Island urges you to recommend passage on House Bill 8012. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Netto".

Matt Netto  
Associate State Director, AARP Rhode Island

