OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 7058

AN ACT CONCERNING AUTOMATED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT SAFETY DEVICES.

SUMMARY

This bill (1) requires the Department of Transportation (DOT) commissioner to develop a plan to expand speed camera use on state roads and (2) explicitly allows municipalities to reimburse a speed or red light camera vendor from fine revenue received through a municipal speed or red light camera program (see BACKGROUND).

Under the bill, the commissioner must submit the plan and any proposed legislation to the Transportation Committee by February 1, 2026. In developing the plan, the commissioner must consider the Federal Highway Administration's Speed Safety Camera Program Planning and Operations Guide and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's High Visibility Enforcement Toolkit.

Regarding the use of municipal speed and red light camera fine revenue, current law allows municipalities to use the revenue to pay costs associated with camera use. The bill specifies that these costs include reimbursing a vendor for speed and red light camera design, installation, operation, or maintenance. By law, fine revenue may also be used to improve transportation mobility and invest in transportation infrastructure.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2025

BACKGROUND

Municipal Speed and Red Light Camera Program

By law, municipalities may establish speed and red light camera programs if they (1) adopt an ordinance meeting the law's requirements and (2) get a speed and red light camera plan approved by DOT every

three years. Municipalities that establish these programs may, among other things, (1) set fines, capped at $50 for first violations and $75 for subsequent violations, and (2) enter into agreements with vendors to design, install, operate, and maintain speed and red light cameras. If a municipality uses a vendor, the vendor's fee may not be contingent on the number of tickets issued or fines paid (CGS § 14-307b et seq.).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 30 Nay 5 (03/12/2025)