

Roberta DiMezza

From: Cameron Bigelow <rijcbigscape@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 12:26 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: H # 7748 Sub A; The Rhode Island Motorcycle Association; On Behalf of the President, Paul R Bond; AGAINST.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Ms. Roberta DiMezza, Committee Clerk,

Speaking as the President of the Rhode Island Motorcycle Association, on behalf of its Board, and its general membership, the Association still stands **AGAINST** H # 7748 Sub A.

We are surprised that this Bill is moving forward from its previous "Held" Status; so, herein we resubmit our reasoning as to why it should NOT be Passed out of Committee.

The RIMA does **NOT** believe that Automated Traffic Signal Laws should include "Block the Box" enforcement. First, most traffic lights are timed differently for the changes from green, to yellow, and then red at each light. So, all of the lights would have to be standardized for the proper time to allow drivers to adjust and stop safely -- to not "block" intersections.

In reality, one of the most dangerous times for a motorcycle is when it is "at" or "near" to an intersection -- barely moving or stopped. If, I am driving my motorcycle -- going through a yellow light, and I try to STOP and the driver of the car behind me is distracted, or just trying to beat the light (to avoid a ticket), the result may very well be an accident from behind!
For a motorcycle operator, that will probably result in serious injury or death.

The other issue that was brought to my attention from riders, is their strong opinion that this proposed Bill and new Law would be just another way to get more money for the Municipalities that decide to install such systems.

Also brought to our attention -- is what the impacts may be for Tourists -- who are the largest driver of our States economy. Tourists who pay all kinds of RI expenses while visiting for a period of time; only to have a ticket mailed to them for a Traffic Camera Violation after arriving home. In that case, you can surely count on a lot of new NEGATIVE social media posts coming from them after the fact!

Finally, we had hoped that SAFETY for motorcycle riders would be a true priority (and not just an afterthought) from a Bill that might further endanger our lives while riding throughout Rhode Island.

Respectfully,

Paul R Bond, President
Rhode Island Motorcycle Association

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