



Mayor of Providence

Brett P. Smiley

March 27, 2025

Representative Steve Casey  
Chair, House Municipal Government Committee  
Rhode Island State House  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Chairman Casey and Members of the Committee,

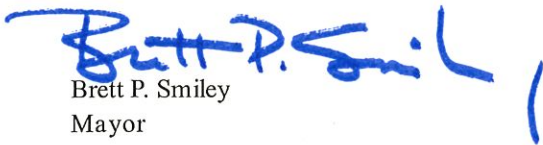
I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill H5951. If passed, this legislation would allow cities and towns in Rhode Island to expand the use of automated speed enforcement systems beyond school zones to designated safety zones.

Since 2016, the City of Providence has utilized speed cameras with great success. One of their most significant benefits is the ability to consistently and efficiently enforce speed limits, particularly during high-traffic times such as school drop-off and pick-up hours. When drivers know they are being monitored, they are more likely to reduce their speed, which in turn helps prevent accidents and creates safer streets for our children and residents.

Expanding the areas where speed cameras can operate—beyond just school zones to other designated safety zones—would further enhance public safety and improve the overall quality of life in our communities. Many Providence residents walk to and from school and work, and extending camera enforcement to additional safety zones would encourage drivers to be more mindful of their speed throughout the city. Additionally, this expanded scope would allow for more strategic and effective camera placement. Currently, speed cameras in Providence are rotated every few months, but House Bill H5951 would provide greater flexibility, ensuring cameras are positioned where they can have the greatest impact.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to support and vote in favor of this important legislation.

Sincerely

  
Brett P. Smiley  
Mayor