



ADVOCATES
FOR HIGHWAY
& AUTO SAFETY



IMPAIRED
DRIVING
ENDS HERE.



February 18, 2025

The Honorable Representative Quang Nguyen

Chair, House Judiciary Committee
Arizona House of Representatives

Dear Chairman Nguyen,

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to making Arizona's roads safer. On behalf of the organizations listed below, we applaud the Arizona Legislature's efforts to address the issue of speeding by introducing House Bill 2786, sponsored by Representative Nguyen. This important and timely legislation establishes an Intelligent Speed Assistance (ISA) Program, offering a safe driving alternative for individuals whose licenses would otherwise be suspended. We respectfully urge the Legislature to pass HB 2786 this session, as it represents a vital step towards creating safer communities, promoting safe driving habits, and saving lives.

Driving in Arizona has become increasingly dangerous. In 2023, speeding was a contributing factor to 446 deaths in Arizona (34.1% of all traffic deaths). Nationally, 29% of all crash fatalities occurred in speed-related crashes in 2022, and 38% of all fatal speeding crashes involved drunk drivers. The linkage between substance-impaired driving behaviors like drunk and drugged driving with speeding is indisputable. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in 2022, alcohol impairment was found to be more common among speeding drivers in fatal traffic crashes than those drivers who were not speeding. Thirty-eight percent of speeding drivers involved in fatal crashes had BACs of .08 g/dL or greater, while 18 percent of non-speeding drivers were in this BAC range. Not only are these avoidable deaths tragic, but the NHTSA estimates that in 2019 alone, the economic cost of speed-related crashes across the United States was \$46 billion.

Current law requires license suspension for reckless driving or repeated moving violations in a single year, aiming to enhance road safety but often failing. The system is ineffective, as 75% of offenders continue driving with a suspended license.

If adopted, HB 2786 would allow drivers convicted of excessive speeding, to install and use technology that limits a motor vehicle's speed based on the applicable speed limits, in lieu of license suspension. An ISA device uses various technologies (GPS, cameras, v2i connections, etc) to identify the speed limit in the vicinity of the vehicle and then take action if the vehicle is over the speed limit by a specified amount.

HB 2786 provides individuals an opportunity to integrate back into their routines and maintain their responsibilities, while simultaneously enhancing road safety for the entire community, and changing driver behavior. An ISA device is designed to give the driver visual feedback, reinforcing safe driving habits over time.

This technology has been a proven effective method to prevent speeding. In London, ISA reduced bus speeding from 15%-19% to 1%-3%. In New York City, a pilot program with 300 municipal vehicles saw 99% compliance with speed limits over 1 million miles, a 37% drop in hard braking, a 64% reduction in overall speeding and an 82% decrease on high-speed roads.

We strongly urge the passage of HB 2786 to help Arizona prevent speed-related traffic fatalities. We believe Arizona can achieve this by introducing a safer and more effective alternative to current speeding penalties.

Respectfully,

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