



ADVOCATES
FOR HIGHWAY
& AUTO SAFETY

April 1, 2026

The Honorable Nick Schultz, Chair
The Honorable Juan Alanis, Vice Chair
Assembly Public Safety Committee
California State Assembly
1020 N Street, Room 111
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Chair Schultz and Vice Chair Alanis:

Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety (Advocates), an alliance of consumer, safety, medical, public health and law enforcement groups and insurance companies working together to pass highway and auto safety laws that prevent crashes, save lives, reduce injuries, and contain costs, supports enactment of Assembly Bill (AB) 2276 to establish an intelligent speed assistance (ISA) pilot program for specified “super speeders” convicted of excessive speeding, reckless driving or racing offenses. This safety upgrade is critical and timely.

In 2024, there were an overall estimated 3,807¹ fatalities on California roads according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) which is a 12 percent increase since 2015.² Additionally, 32 percent of California traffic deaths in 2023 involved speeding which exceeds the national average of 29 percent.³ Moreover, traffic fatalities involving speeding increased 31 percent in the state from 2014 to 2023.⁴ During the same period fatalities among vulnerable road users (VRUs) increased as well with a 56 percent rise in pedestrian fatalities and a 12 percent uptick in bicyclist and other cyclists fatalities.⁵

In addition to the physical and emotional impact, these crashes impose a tremendous financial burden. Traffic fatalities cost the state \$29.1 billion each year equating to a per resident “crash tax” of \$736 according to a 2019 analysis.⁶ When updated for inflation alone, in 2026, costs would equate to \$37.6 billion.⁷

Active ISA is technology that can identify the speed limit in real time and limit the speed of vehicles exceeding the specified threshold, which in this bill’s case is the posted speed limit. A recent study on an ISA pilot program for city fleet vehicles in New York City, which involved 500 vehicles and over 2.9 million miles of driving, showed ISA produced a 64 percent reduction in overall time spent speeding (more than 11 miles per hour [mph] over limit), including an 82 percent reduction in time spent speeding on higher-speed roads (50 mph).⁸ Due to the program’s success, it is now being expanded to 2,100 vehicles.⁹

ISA technology is urgently needed because excess speed contributes to both the frequency and severity of motor vehicle crashes and proves especially dangerous for VRUs such as pedestrians, bicyclists and roadside first responders who lack the protective structure of a vehicle. Small increases in speed cause serious declines in safety. The average risk of death for a pedestrian is 10 percent at an impact speed of 23 mph, 25 percent at 32 mph, and 50 percent at 42 mph.¹⁰ Vehicle occupants suffer its impacts as well, crash tests showed that modest five to 10 mph increases in speed can have a severe impact on a driver’s risk of injury or death.¹¹ VRUs are particularly at risk in California as 31 percent of those killed in traffic crashes in 2023 were a pedestrian, bicyclist or other cyclist compared to the national average of 21 percent.¹²

We strongly urge you to support and advance AB 2276. Last year Washington and Virginia became the first states to enact ISA laws, following the District of Columbia doing so in 2024, and many states have pending ISA legislation this year including Arizona and Hawaii, which recently passed ISA bills in their respective House of Representatives. The Golden State can become a leader in this emerging safety trend and save lives by enacting AB 2276. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Catherine Chase, President

cc: Assembly Public Safety Committee members

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- ¹ Traffic Safety Facts: Crash Stats, Early Estimate of Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities in 2024, NHTSA, April 2025, DOT HS 813 710, available at <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/813710>.
- ² State Traffic Safety Information for California, NHTSA, available at <https://cdan.dot.gov/STSI/stsi.htm>.
- ³ State Traffic Safety Information for California, NHTSA, available at <https://cdan.dot.gov/STSI/stsi.htm>; Traffic Safety Facts 2023 Data: Speeding, NHTSA, Jun. 2025, DOT HS 813 721, available at <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/813721>.
- ⁴ State Traffic Safety Information for California, NHTSA, available at <https://cdan.dot.gov/STSI/stsi.htm>.
- ⁵ State Traffic Safety Information for California, NHTSA, available at <https://cdan.dot.gov/stsi.htm>.
- ⁶ The Economic and Societal Impact of Motor Vehicle Crashes, 2019, NHTSA, Feb. 2023, DOT HS 813 403, available at <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/813403>.
- ⁷ CPI Inflation Calculator, BLS, Jan. 2019 to Jan. 2026, available at <https://data.bls.gov/cgi-bin/cpicalc.pl>.
- ⁸ New York City Department of Citywide Administrative Services. (2024, October 30). DCAS & U.S. DOT Volpe Announce Municipal Speeding Reduction of 64% in New Report on Intelligent Speed Assistance [Press release] available [here](#).
- ⁹ New York City Department of Citywide Administrative Services. (2024, October 30). DCAS & U.S. DOT Volpe Announce Municipal Speeding Reduction of 64% in New Report on Intelligent Speed Assistance [Press release] available [here](#).
- ¹⁰ Impact Speed and a Pedestrian's Risk of Severe Injury or Death, AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, Sep. 2011., available at <https://aaaafoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/2011PedestrianRiskVsSpeedReport.pdf>.
- ¹¹ Impact of Speeds on Drivers and Vehicles – Results from Crash Tests, AAA Foundation for Safety, Humanetics, and IIHS, Jan. 2021, available at <https://www.iihs.org/api/datastore/document/bibliography/2218>.
- ¹² State Traffic Safety Information for California, NHTSA, available at <https://cdan.dot.gov/STSI/stsi.htm>; Traffic Safety Facts 2023 Data: Summary of Motor Vehicle Traffic Crashes, NHTSA, Oct. 2025, DOT HS 813 762, available at <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/813762>.