

HB 1976 -- AUTOMATED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT SYSTEMS

SPONSOR: Spencer

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Downsizing State Government by a vote of 12 to 2.

This bill prohibits the enforcement of automated traffic systems that establish a motor vehicle is not in compliance with traffic signals, speeds, or other traffic laws, ordinances, or rules on any public street, road, or highway in the state beginning August 28, 2014. Imposing any civil or criminal fines, fees, or penalties for the offenses will be prohibited.

Any county, city, town, village, municipality, state agency, or other political subdivision that currently has an automated traffic enforcement system installation or maintenance contract with a company or entity on August 28, 2014, will be required to terminate the contract by September 1, 2015.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that red-light cameras, and their resulting tickets, are rife with corruption. The tickets do not indicate how to appeal the ticket. The companies that make and install the cameras allegedly offer bribes to get city managers to install these cameras.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Spencer; Matthew Hay; Jim Lempke; Mike Carter; Missouri Family Network; and Edward Sheppard.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.