

HCS HB 207 -- AUTOMATED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT SYSTEMS

SPONSOR: Curtman

COMMITTEE ACTIONS: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Civil and Criminal Proceedings by a vote of 11 to 1. Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Select Committee on Judiciary by a vote 9 to 2.

This bill prohibits, upon voter approval, any political subdivision or state agency from using automated traffic enforcement systems. The bill allows for the lawful use of automated license plate readers.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that studies show that red light cameras cause more accidents than they prevent and deprive an individual of his or her due process rights because a penalty is imposed on an individual without properly ascertaining whether or not he or she actually committed the offense.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Curtman; Jason Cadell; Missouri Alliance For Freedom; ACLU Of Missouri; Tony Shepherd; and Trent Watson.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that red light cameras improve safety at intersections and that it is within a municipality's police powers to set up and enforce red light camera tickets.

Testifying against the bill was Missouri Municipal League.