

Jeremy Nichols  
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LD 1457

Chairpersons, members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to LD 1457.

This bill represents yet another step toward excessive surveillance and control over the daily lives of Maine citizens. The introduction of automated speed control systems in highway work zones may be presented under the guise of safety, but in reality, it paves the way for constant, 24/7 monitoring and enforcement.

Maine already utilizes license plate tracking cameras for investigative purposes. While these systems are not currently authorized for speed enforcement, LD 1457 moves us closer to a future where digital surveillance is normalized and expanded in the name of public safety.

This is not just about traffic enforcement—it's about the broader implications of increasing government oversight through technology. It's about setting precedents that compromise privacy and civil liberties.

Instead of investing in costly surveillance initiatives, perhaps it's time to focus on reducing unnecessary spending and improving accountability. We should not rely on "nanny cam" enforcement to generate revenue or impose control.

I urge the Committee to reject this measure. LD 1457 ought not to pass.