

ATTORNEY GENERAL WILLIAM TONG STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Testimony in Support of H.B. No. 7260, An Act Concerning Excessive Reckless Driving Judiciary Committee Monday, March 31st, 2025

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of H.B. No. 7260 which aims to improve the safety of our roads and hold accountable those who endanger our lives through their reckless and lawless misbehavior.

There is not a day that goes by where I do not experience someone driving recklessly on our roads and highways along my commute up to Hartford, and even more concerningly when I am driving with my family. From excessive speeding and reckless lane changes to distracted and intoxicated driving, this brazen lawlessness puts all of us at risk and cannot be tolerated. Regardless of day, time, or what lane I am in there are individuals speeding by, often exceeding one-hundred miles-per-hour, with little to no consequence. My family, like all Connecticut families, deserves to be safe on our roadways without concern that an irresponsible driver will jeopardize their wellbeing. That is why we must do more to protect the safety of our roads, and I believe this bill is a step in the right direction.

By requiring the 48-hour impoundment of someone's motor vehicle after they have been arrested for travelling over one-hundred miles-per-hour will increase accountability for those engaging in this type of reckless behavior and will likely make them think twice before traveling that fast again. This dangerous activity can have life altering, and sometimes fatal, consequences not only for the operator of the motor vehicle but potentially on innocent travelers just trying to get to their destination safely. With over three-hundred fatalities from car crashes just last year, it is time we take meaningful steps to increase the safety of our roads.

For the reasons above, the Office of the Attorney General recommends that the Committee favorably report H.B. No. 7260.

For additional information, please contact Nate Kalechman, Director of Legislative Affairs for the Office of the Attorney General at Nathan.Kalechman@ct.gov.