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Nolan R. Ritchie, M.P.A.

Executive Director, [Senate Transportation Committee](#)

Office of [Senator Wayne Langerholc, Jr.](#) (R-35)

281 Main Capitol Building,

Harrisburg, PA 17120

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RE: Written testimony regarding "The Role of Parking Authorities in the Transportation System".
Senate Transportation Committee hearing, Wednesday, May 1st at 9:45 a.m. in Room 461.

Attachments:

- SB 736 June, 2017 Senator Scott Martin
- <https://triblive.com/local/pittsburgh-officials-look-to-tweak-controversial-purple-curb-loading-zone-program/>
- 2024 International Parking & Mobility Institute (IPMI) EV Readiness Resource Guide

In 2017/2018, the PPA's team helped drive legislation that allows Cities of the 3rd class to adjudicate parking tickets, removing them from the District Justice (DJ) court, in short, changing parking tickets from Criminal to Civil. Not only has this legislation allowed authorities to improve the experience of the offender, but it has also freed up courts and enhanced the payment process. But this has led to difficulty in obtaining past due fines. PA municipalities are not allowed to access the offenders credit, vehicle registration or driver's license. (except Philadelphia)

We are advocating for enforcement for payment of past due fines that may include pulling vehicle registration and driver's license censure...like what you have enacted for the PA Turnpike Commission.

The new challenge for cities and municipalities across PA is Curb Management. The challenge started around 2018 but since the pandemic, has accelerated many years forward. The typical uses for the curb have changed and increased dramatically. For example:

Package delivery, FedEx, UPS and Amazon
Ride hailing & Vehicle share (Uber, Lyft, taxis, etc.)
Retail and commercial deliveries
Eateries & parklets
Food delivery (Door dash, Uber eats, etc.)
Contractor permits
Residential Parking Permits (RPP)
Handicap parking

More Users of the curb:

Law enforcement (police, fire, traffic enforcement)
City services

Food Trucks

In-home medical providers

Event venues (concerts, athletic and holiday)

Bike Lanes and other modes of transportation (Scooters)

Pittsburgh and other cities have begun to Manage the Curb and especially Loading Zones.

This is why we need to be able to enact Tickets/Citations by mail and have them enforceable with a possible suspension of vehicle registration (in PA comes with notice to Car insurers). We are more than willing to assist the committee with crafting such legislation. Currently, Philadelphia has suspension power only after a driver has amassed 6 tickets, they pay one to get it to 5, then they receive their registration back.

We are asking for instead of the number of tickets, that we look at total fine(s). Proposing \$250 in outstanding tickets/citations you are eligible for suspension.

Ticket/Citation by Mail: Instead of leaving it open for each municipalities interpretation, we are asking the Committee to make it clear that Parking Authorities or Municipal Services have the authority to issue by mail.

This will further clear the road for Parking Authorities to operate **Red light cameras**. Allowing authorities to police this traffic violation strategy makes our cities safer, frees up traffic courts, and funds authorities. Speed cameras may be included in this initiative. It would assist in cities achieving **VISION ZERO**.

Finally, since ALPR (automated License Plate Recognition) is so prevalent today from the Turnpike to law enforcement... Additionally, mandating front license plates would increase camera placement flexibility and improve the effectiveness of license plate capture for payment and enforcement purposes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark A. Vergenes, Consultant