

the Borough  
of Edinboro



Taras Jemetz  
Borough Manager

May 23, 2014

Senator Sean Wiley  
1314 Griswold Plaza  
Suite 100  
Erie, PA 16501

Dear Senator Wiley,

The Borough of Edinboro is very much in favor of SB 1340 and would appreciate your support for this essential legislation.

Our police currently rely on a very archaic method for controlling speeders. It consists of lines painted on the street and an officer timing the moving vehicle with a stop watch. Can you believe this? This is very cumbersome procedure and not particularly effective.

Forbidding radar for municipal police officers is akin to requiring them to use manual typewriters instead of computers.

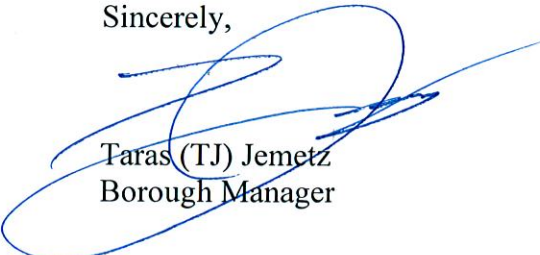
I've been told that there is a fear that municipalities would somehow abuse the radar and attempt to make lots of money off speeding tickets. That's ridiculous because the municipalities share on a speeding ticket is only \$15 dollars. If a ticket is contested, then we have to pay an officer to go to court, which requires 2.5 hours of overtime pay. That's about \$94. Radar and associated speeding tickets is not exactly a big money maker for municipalities.

We want to use radar to help enhance public safety. We want drivers to slow down! See the attached resolution passed by Borough Council in 2012.

We would appreciate your support on SB 1340.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Taras (TJ) Jemetz  
Borough Manager

TJ/mlf

HOME RULE BOROUGH OF EDINBORO  
RESOLUTION NO. 10-2012  
Support on the Use of Radar by Municipal Police

WHEREAS, the Home Rule Borough of Edinboro, Erie County, Pennsylvania has a municipal police department, and,

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania State Mayors' Association supports legislation to allow municipalities to use radar in the enforcement of speed limits to provide safe streets and roadways for our residents; and

WHEREAS, the Home Rule Borough of Edinboro Council are responsible for enforcing the law and to protect the people we serve; and

WHEREAS, excessive speeding causes severe injuries and deaths and jeopardizes the safety and well-being of all law abiding citizens; and

WHEREAS, radar is the most cost-effective, legal, speed-timing device and presents a device in which there is less chance for, not only human, but also product error; and

WHEREAS, municipal police in the Home Rule Borough of Edinboro, unlike their counterparts in 49 other states, are prohibited from using the half-century-old technology, radar, to enforce speed limits; and

WHEREAS, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, traffic safety groups, the state police, the Fraternal Order of Police are all supportive of municipalities' use of radar to enforce speed limits and protect the safety of residents; and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by authority of the Council of Home Rule Borough of Edinboro, Erie County, Pennsylvania, assembled this 8th day of October, 2012, is hereby resolved by authority of the same, that the Council resolves that the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania pass legislation to allow municipalities to use radar in the enforcement of speed limits to provide safe streets and roadways for our residents; and that the **Borough Manager** of the Home Rule Borough of Edinboro be authorized and directed to forward this resolution to members of the Pennsylvania House of Representative and Senate for their immediate action.

ATTEST:

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

T. Jemetz, Borough Manager

Home Rule Borough of Edinboro

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor Greg Lucas



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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 1340 Session of  
2014

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INTRODUCED BY VULAKOVICH, ALLOWAY, BAKER, BLAKE, BREWSTER,  
BROWNE, BRUBAKER, EICHELBERGER, ERICKSON, FONTANA, SMITH,  
SMUCKER, SOLOBAY, TEPLITZ, WHITE AND YUDICHAK, APRIL 21, 2014

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REFERRED TO TRANSPORTATION, APRIL 21, 2014

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, in rules of the road in general, further providing  
3 for speed timing devices.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 3368(c) of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania  
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

8 § 3368. Speed timing devices.

9 \* \* \*

10 (c) Mechanical, electrical and electronic devices  
11 authorized.--

12 (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the  
13 rate of speed of any vehicle may be timed on any highway by a  
14 police officer using a mechanical or electrical speed timing  
15 device.

16 (2) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (3),  
17 electronic devices such as radio-microwave devices (commonly  
18 referred to as electronic speed meters or radar) may be used

1 [only by members of the Pennsylvania State Police] by any  
2 police officer.

3 (3) Electronic devices which calculate speed by  
4 measuring elapsed time between measured road surface points  
5 by using two sensors and devices which measure and calculate  
6 the average speed of a vehicle between any two points may be  
7 used by any police officer.

8 (4) No person may be convicted upon evidence obtained  
9 through the use of devices authorized by paragraphs (2) and  
10 (3) unless the speed recorded is six or more miles per hour  
11 in excess of the legal speed limit. Furthermore, no person  
12 may be convicted upon evidence obtained through the use of  
13 devices authorized by paragraph (3) in an area where the  
14 legal speed limit is less than 55 miles per hour if the speed  
15 recorded is less than ten miles per hour in excess of the  
16 legal speed limit. This paragraph shall not apply to evidence  
17 obtained through the use of devices authorized by paragraph  
18 (2) or (3) within a school zone or an active work zone.

19 \* \* \*

20 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 120 days.