

March 31, 2025

Nevada State Legislature
401 S. Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

RE: Opposition to Senate Bill 415 – Disparities and Infrastructure Concerns

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee on Growth and Infrastructure,

On behalf of the NAACP Las Vegas #1111, we write to express our firm opposition to Senate Bill 415, which authorizes the installation and use of automated traffic enforcement systems under certain circumstances. While we recognize the importance of traffic safety and are empathetic of the many families negatively impacted, we are deeply concerned about the disproportionate impact this legislation will have on low-income and historically underserved communities, particularly communities of color.

The language in Section 2 of SB415 allows local governments to authorize automated traffic enforcement systems where there is a “high rate of violations” or “a high rate of traffic crashes” due to traffic violations. This vague and subjective criteria opens the door for over-enforcement in already over-policed neighborhoods, particularly those that have experienced decades of infrastructure disinvestment and neglect. This is modern-day redlining through surveillance and citation.

Furthermore, the bill creates a rebuttable presumption that the registered vehicle owner is the driver at the time of violation (Sec. 2.7), placing undue burden on individuals to prove otherwise and potentially leading to unjust penalties, especially for families who share vehicles or have limited access to legal resources.

Though the bill exempts these citations from insurance rate increases and demerit points (Sec. 8), it does not eliminate the harmful economic consequences of civil penalties that disproportionately affect working-class individuals. Under Section 2.8, these civil penalties may be up to \$100 per violation, with funds directed toward covering the cost of the system itself rather than community reinvestment or infrastructure repair.

Our communities need investment in infrastructure—not surveillance. Automated enforcement fails to address the root causes of traffic violations in marginalized areas, such as poor street lighting, inadequate signage, pedestrian hazards, and lack of public transportation options. The implementation of SB415 would unfairly penalize communities that have long been denied equitable infrastructure development.

We urge you to vote NO on SB415 and to instead advance legislation that prioritizes equitable infrastructure improvements, true community engagement, and alternatives that do not perpetuate systemic disparities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ashley Dodson, CEO
Anchored Perspectives

On Behalf of the NAACP Las Vegas #1111