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Tennessee Legislature Affirms Support for School Zone Speed Safety Cameras

Tempe, AZ — American Traffic Solutions (ATS), the nation's leading provider of road safety cameras, applauds the Tennessee Legislature for their support of school zone speed safety cameras. By their action, lawmakers align their state with the latest efforts to improve traffic safety.

The legislation permits communities in the state to continue to use lifesaving school zone speed safety cameras and speed cameras along dangerous sharply winding roads across Tennessee. HB 1372 now awaits signing into law by Gov. Bill Haslam. The legislation positions Tennessee to continue as one of the nation's 15 states and the District of Columbia using speed safety cameras.

Speed is a leading contributor to traffic fatalities in the United States claiming more than 10,000 lives annually, and poses a particular hazard in school zones. On average, more than 100 children are killed every year while walking to and from school, and about 25,000 are injured, according to the Transportation Research Board. One national study found two-thirds of drivers exceed the posted speed limit in school zones.

"We can all agree keeping children safe is a priority for every community. We are pleased the state of Tennessee is taking steps to empower cities and towns to make use of school zone speed safety cameras, which are proven to help reduce vehicle speed and improve safety for students, as well as speed safety cameras on dangerous roads," ATS president David Roberts said.

Speeding is a chronic danger in Tennessee. According to the National Center for Statistics and Analysis, speed-related fatalities in Tennessee claimed 1,089 lives from 2009 through 2013. More than 26 percent of those deaths (291) occurred on streets with speed limits of 35 mph or less.

Recently, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention launched an online tool that helps states quantify the benefits of speed and red-light safety cameras. Available at <http://www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/calculator/index.html>, the tool calculates the economic benefits of the lives saved and injuries prevented as a result of using road safety cameras. A simple cost-benefit analysis for Tennessee shows speed safety cameras would reduce fatalities by 27 lives, lower injuries by more than 2,200 and provide a monetary benefit of \$88 million in lives saved and injuries prevented.

About American Traffic Solutions:

American Traffic Solutions (ATS) is proud to be the market leader in road safety camera installations in North America. *Nationally, ATS has more than 3,200 installed red-light and speed safety cameras serving more than 30 million people. ATS has contracts in nearly 300 communities in 20 states and Washington, D.C. For more information, please visit: www.atsol.com or www.PlatePass.com. To view video that serves as a chilling reminder of the dangers that red-light runners present to our family and children; visit ATS on YouTube here: <http://www.youtube.com/ATSRoadSafety>*