

**Sponsor Testimony For House Bill 137
Vehicle Laws - Intersections - Prohibited Acts
*aka DON'T BLOCK THE BOX!***

Before the Environment & Transportation Committee

January 13, 2022

House Bill 137 would allow local police departments to enforce a “Don’t Block the Box” rule at signed intersections.

Thanks to the work of this committee, identical or similar bills passed the House four times in previous sessions. House Bill 137 is identical to HB311 of 2021, HB70 of 2020 and HB108 of 2019. It is also similar to HB672 of 2018.

Allowing this type of enforcement is a common sense measure that is in place in many other states and cities. It will improve safety for people on foot as well as in vehicles. It will also help traffic move smoothly so that everyone arrives at their destination sooner.

One amendment the committee may want to consider is on page 4, line 4 to clarify that a driver turning left must yield to bicyclists as well as pedestrians.

I ask for your favorable report.