

# CITY of WILMINGTON

## North Carolina

P.O. BOX 1810  
28402

4/19/2011

City Council  
City Hall  
Wilmington, North Carolina 28401

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers:

This resolution is being requested by Councilmembers Padgett and Sparks and asks that the Wilmington City Council respectfully requests the North Carolina General Assembly to defeat SB 187 that would outlaw the Safelight Program. For over five years, the City of Wilmington has successfully utilized Safelight (system that utilizes an automated camera system for ticketing drivers who run red lights at intersections).

Until last year, the City paid the gross operating costs for the operations and management of the program and beginning last year, New Hanover County agreed to share in the gross operating costs of the program up to \$200,000 annually. Ninety Percent (90%) of gross revenue of the program, projected at over \$800,000 for the current fiscal year is provided, by law, to the New Hanover County Public Schools to support public education. No net revenue comes to the City for the operations of this program. As referenced earlier, it costs the City to support this worthy program.

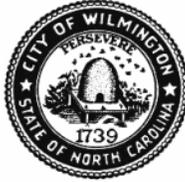
In addition, the Program has demonstrated its ability to enhance the safety at intersections by reducing accident rates by over thirty percent (30%), reducing property losses, and the public safety expenses of police, fire and emergency medical personnel responses to vehicular accidents. The elimination of the program would present an immediate loss in much needed revenues for our schools, reduce the safety of our intersections and increase the public safety demands and costs in responding to increasing accidents in our City.

Passage of the attached Resolution is recommended.

Respectfully submitted,

Sterling B. Cheatham,  
City Manager

# Resolution



City Council  
City of Wilmington  
North Carolina

**Introduced By:** Councilmember Padgett and Councilmember Sparks

**Date:** 4/19/2011

**Resolution Requesting the General Assembly to Defeat Senate Bill 187 which will outlaw the Use of Red Light Cameras (Safelight Program) in New Hanover County**

**LEGISLATIVE INTENT/PURPOSE:**

Whereas for over five years, the City of Wilmington has successfully utilized Safelight (the system that utilizes an automated camera system for ticketing drivers who run red lights at intersections); and

Whereas, until last year, the City paid the gross operating costs for the operations and management of the program; and

Whereas, beginning last year, New Hanover County agreed to share in the gross operating costs of the program up to \$200,000 annually; and

Whereas, that 90% of gross revenue of the program, projected at over \$800,000 for the current fiscal year are provided, by law, to the New Hanover County Public Schools to support public education; and

Whereas, the Program has demonstrated its ability to enhance the safety at intersections by reducing intersection accident rates by over thirty percent (30%), reducing property losses, and reducing the public safety expenses of police, fire and emergency medical personnel responses to vehicular accidents; and

Whereas the elimination of the program would present an immediate loss in much needed revenues for our schools, reduce the safety of our intersections and increase the public safety demands and costs in responding to increasing accidents in our City, which already experiences major traffic delays and frustration.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

THAT, the Wilmington City Council respectfully requests the North Carolina General Assembly to defeat SB 187 that would outlaw the Safelight Program.

Adopted at a \_\_\_\_\_ meeting  
on \_\_\_\_\_, 2011.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Penelope Spicer-Sidbury, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Saffo, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney