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Senator Jim Lembke Introduces His First Bills in Missouri Senate

Hopeful Senate Bill 211 Will Result in Stopping Usage of Red Light Cameras

JEFFERSON CITY — State Senator Jim Lembke, R-St. Louis, introduced one of his priority bills on the Senate floor yesterday (1/20). <u>Senate Bill 211</u> would prohibit cities from using automated red light cameras to enforce traffic violations.

"These 'red light' cameras are being used as revenue enhancers within municipalities and profit out-of-state companies," Sen. Lembke said. "The cameras can't prove who's driving the vehicle, and many people argue this method of traffic enforcement disregards a person's Fifth Amendment rights and forces self-incrimination. This is an example of big government and 'Big Brother' at its worst"

While the starting salary for a commissioned St. Louis police officer is \$37,514 a year, one red light camera costs around \$56,000 a year to operate.

Senator Lembke also introduced <u>Senate Bill 210</u>, <u>Senate Joint Resolution 9</u>, <u>Senate Joint Resolution 10</u>, and <u>Senate Joint Resolution 11</u> on the Senate floor.

"I am hopeful these bills will make it onto the governor's desk," Sen. Lembke said. "While all of these items are important to me, SB 211 is one of my priorities this year."