

THE WEEKLY ENUMERATOR

OCTOBER 9, 2015

SCORECARD FOR LEGISLATION & POLICY

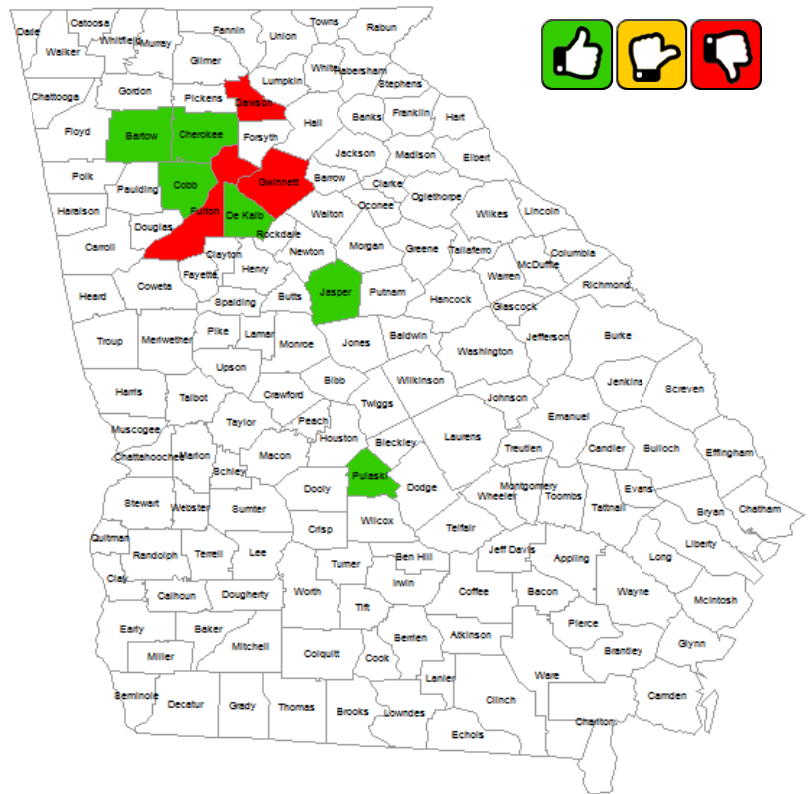
SURVEY QUESTION

Should Georgian's support Rep. Spencer on HB 69 in his effort to limit access to vehicle crash data?

7% of Georgia Counties Reported
53% Voted YES
0% Voted MAYBE
47% Voted NO

Representative Jason Spencer offered up House Bill 69 during the 2015 session. Rep. Spencer is promoting HB 69 to limit the accessibility of motor vehicle 'event data recorder' data as a personal privacy protection measure.

Many consider this to be a prudent measure, but some wonder whether it damages highway safety by limiting the data available to planners and engineers.



VOICES OF ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES



Rep. Jason Spencer, (R-GA) District 180 – “HB 69 made it out of the House Motor Vehicles Committee and made it to House Rules. It was ‘recommitted’ back to the House MV’s committee. I will try again next year.” “Our job is to restrict government,” said Rep. Jason Spencer, R-Woodbine as reported by zpolitics’ Walter Jones. Several of the bills target new technology, like Spencer’s HB 69 that deals with computers on cars that track information about speed, braking, turning and other driving habits. The most sophisticated also track GPS coordinates to record everywhere the vehicle has been. “There is this feeling that technology is eroding our civil liberties,” he said.

VOICE FROM THE INDUSTRY: (CNN) – It may be in your car or truck and you may not even know it. It’s called the “event data recorder”, similar to a plane’s black box. “This is the brain of the car all the safety devices within the car itself.” It’s a piece of the puzzle 5 to 25 seconds leading up to a crash. “It could the steering, the breaking, the sudden movement of the vehicle so that helps the investigation determined what happened in the crash.” The highest speed captured on a black box was 111 miles per hour in a 25 mile per hour zone. The data from the black box isn’t useful just for investigators, but family of crash victims too. The Missouri State Highway Patrol says they can get closure by knowing the events leading up to the crash. (2/12/2015 - Lauren Pozen, KSPR)

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VOICES FROM AROUND THE STATE

COMMENTS - YES VOTERS



- “This legislation helps move the public mind back towards the need for personal privacy. It may be time for another bill to be introduced that institutionalizes the right to privacy as a necessary precondition for any legislation to be considered in the General Assembly.”
- “Not only yes, hell yes! Tracking us everywhere we go won't make anyone safer.”
- “I'm in favor of any effort to protect individual privacy.”
- “Privacy”
- “We can no longer afford to let government, corporations, insurance companies and who knows who collect data on us. Every individual is threatened by the amount of personal data that has been collected. Governments or even nefarious private interests can use this data, whether accurately or inaccurately, to deny credit, deny opportunities, or even deny civil rights. These abuses need to be stopped and need to be stopped now.”
- “Our privacy rights are threatened. This bill makes one step towards securing our privacy.”
- “No one has a right to this information without our say so. And this is not the worst of it. Car manufacturers own the software that makes your car run. Look what happened with VW, and no one could even check the code to see what they had done!”
- Good legislation. Strong controls are needed to ensure privacy.

COMMENTS - NO VOTERS



- “The Bill, as written, has many openings for circumvention. In practical application it will never do what the sponsors apparently intend to do.
It needs substantial rethinking.”
- “As long as the data is used as meta data and not for personal use or against a single person or political party or for the gain of a single person, business or political party, then I am fine with the data being available.”
- “Over 1000 people a year die in traffic deaths in Georgia. Worse, in 2015 the trends are headed back in the wrong direction reversing a downward trend for the past five years. If you have had a family member or friend die in an auto accident, and particularly if where no one survived to explain what occurred, you might think twice about how this data is made available to those seeking to reduce death and injury in car crashes.”

Resources regarding this bill at:

<http://www.restoreandpreservetheconstitution.com/we-survey-oct-2-2015-hb-69/>

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