Arizona State Senate

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Press Release

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Senator Paul Boyer and Phoenix Councilwoman Laura Pastor on legislation enforcing stricter consequences for street racers

(Phoenix, State Capitol) --- State Senator Paul Boyer has introduced new legislation aimed at stopping street and drag racing.

The introduction of SB 1659 lays the groundwork for stricter penalties, including impoundment and a $1,000 fine. This bill also proposes the creation of the Drag Racing Prevention Enforcement Fund, which will provide additional resources to local law enforcement agencies.

Phoenix Councilwoman Laura Pastor has been an advocate for stricter penalties, including impoundment of vehicles and higher fines. “This bill is a big step forward in stopping the growing issue of street and drag racing in our communities,” said Councilwoman Pastor. “Our office has received numerous complaints from constituents and police officers have expressed the need for additional tools to combat the issue. We hope that this bill, once approved will aid local law enforcement and help our communities be a safer place.”

Street racing is not only increasing, it’s also becoming more violent,” said State Senator Paul Boyer. “This is a danger to the officers who are shot at trying to break it up, to the spectators who are in harm’s way, and the general public who has to avoid gunshots, fireworks, and cars careening out of control. SB 1659 will protect the public by helping to take away the incentive for those who are drawn to these dangerous events.”

"Street racing is extremely dangerous not only to the drivers but to the spectators as well," said Jack Lunsford, "Law enforcement officers need every tool available to deter this bad behavior and to arrest those who put lives in danger. This legislation is a great step toward that." Lunsford is a spokesperson for the Arizona Conference of Police and Sheriffs and its affiliate, the Phoenix Police Sergeants and Lieutenants Association.

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