



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments*

Margaret E. Marcy

Sub. H.B. 125

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(S. Local Gov't, Public Safety and Veterans Affairs)

The amendments adopted by the Senate committee make two primary changes to the prior version of the bill:

(1) Focuses the exclusive jurisdiction granted to municipal and county courts under the bill to civil traffic violations, rather than all traffic violations (both civil and criminal).

(2) Directly prohibits townships from using traffic law photo-monitoring devices (traffic cameras) on interstate highways.

Court jurisdiction

Specifies that municipal courts and county courts have exclusive jurisdiction over "all *civil* violations of every state traffic law or municipal traffic ordinance" (emphasis added). In comparison, the House-Passed version granted the municipal and county courts exclusive jurisdiction over *all* violations of *every* traffic ordinance (thus, giving the municipal and county courts jurisdiction over criminal felony traffic violations, which are currently under the jurisdiction of the Courts of Common Pleas).¹

Traffic cameras on interstate highways

Directly prohibits any township law enforcement officer or township representative from using a traffic camera to enforce *civil* speeding violations on an interstate highway.² In comparison, the House-passed version prohibited township law enforcement officers from townships with a population of 50,000 or less from enforcing

¹ R.C. 1901.20(A)(2) and 1907.02(D).

² R.C. 4511.093(C).

* This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the Senate Floor.

any civil or criminal traffic or motor vehicle equipment violations on an interstate highway.³

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³ R.C. 4513.39.