



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

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H.B. 154*

131st General Assembly

(As Reported by H. Armed Services, Veterans Affairs, & Public Safety)

Reps. Henne and Sheehy, Stinziano, Grossman, Clyde, Perales, Duffey, Zeltwanger, K. Smith, Brenner, Lepore-Hagan, Fedor

BILL SUMMARY

- Requires a vehicle operator at an intersection where the traffic control signal is malfunctioning, including when there is a failure of the vehicle detector to detect the vehicle, to follow the same procedures that apply when a traffic control signal fails to indicate the assignment of the right-of-way.
- Provides that when a motor vehicle overtakes and passes a bicycle, the safe passing distance to the left is not less than three feet.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Malfunctioning traffic control signals

The bill requires a vehicle operator at an intersection where the traffic control signal is malfunctioning, including when there is a failure of the vehicle detector to detect the vehicle, to follow the same procedures that apply when a traffic control signal fails to clearly indicate the assignment of the right-of-way.¹

The applicable procedure requires the vehicle operator to (1) stop at the stop line, or if there is no stop line stop before entering the near crosswalk, or if there is no near crosswalk, stop before entering the intersection, (2) yield the right-of-way to all vehicles in the intersection or approaching on an intersecting road if they will constitute an

* This analysis was prepared before the report of the House Armed Services, Veterans Affairs, & Public Safety Committee appeared in the House Journal. Note that the list of co-sponsors and the legislative history may be incomplete.

¹ R.C. 4511.132(A).

immediate hazard while the operator is moving across or within the intersection or junction of roadways, and (3) exercise ordinary care while proceeding through the intersection.²

Passing distance to the left when a motor vehicle passes a bicycle

The bill provides that when a motor vehicle overtakes and passes a bicycle, the safe passing distance to the left is not less than three feet. Current law provides generally that when the operator of a vehicle overtakes another vehicle traveling in the same direction, the operator must "pass to the left thereof at a safe distance"³

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	04-13-15
Reported, H. Armed Services, Veterans Affairs, & Public Safety	---

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² R.C. 4511.132(A)(1) to (3).

³ R.C. 4511.27(A)(1).

