



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

Amanda M. Ferguson

H.B. 154

131st General Assembly
(As Passed by the House)

Reps. Henne and Sheehy, Stinziano, Grossman, Clyde, Perales, Duffey, Zeltwanger, K. Smith, Brenner, Lepore-Hagan, Fedor, Bishoff, Retherford, Antonio, Arndt, Ashford, Barnes, Boggs, Boyd, Brown, Celebrezze, Craig, Driehaus, Leland, Manning, M. O'Brien, S. O'Brien, Patterson, Phillips, Ramos, Rogers, Sprague, Strahorn, Sweeney

BILL SUMMARY

- Requires a vehicle operator at an intersection where the traffic control signal is malfunctioning (including the failure of a vehicle detector to detect the vehicle) to follow the procedures that apply when a signal fails to assign the right-of-way.
- Requires a motor vehicle that is passing a bicycle to provide a safe passing distance of not less than three feet.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Malfunctioning traffic control signals

The bill requires a vehicle operator who is at an intersection where the traffic control signal is malfunctioning, including when there is a failure of a vehicle detector to detect the vehicle, to follow the 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 do all of the following:

(1) Stop at the stop line; if there is no stop line, stop before entering the near crosswalk; if there is no near crosswalk, stop before entering the intersection;

¹ R.C. 4511.132(A).

(2) Yield the right-of-way to all vehicles in the intersection or approaching on an intersecting road if they will constitute an 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 requires a motor vehicle that is overtaking and passing a bicycle to provide a safe passing distance to the left of the bicycle of 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	06-25-15
Passed House (81-16)	05-24-16

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² R.C. 4511.132(A)(1) to (3).

³ R.C. 4511.27(A)(1).

