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H.B. 113
133rd General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Passed by the House

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Patton

Carlen Zhang-D'souza, Attorney

SUMMARY

- Prohibits a private towing service from employing or compensating spotters.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Prohibition on spotters

The bill prohibits a private towing service from knowingly employing or compensating a spotter, which is a person who reports the presence of an unauthorized parked vehicle for the purpose of towing, removing, or impounding that vehicle.¹ The bill imposes a third degree misdemeanor on a towing service that violates this prohibition.²

Also, the bill specifically states that the following are not “spotters” for purposes of the bill:

1. A law enforcement officer who, in the performance of the officer's duties, is tasked with reporting the presence of unauthorized parked vehicles for purposes of towing, removal, or impounding;
2. A private property owner, the owner's agent, or a towing company under contract with the owner when a private tow-away zone is located on the property owner's property, and the property owner (or the owner's agent) requests the towing service to remove a motor vehicle from the private tow-away zone.³

¹ R.C. 4513.612(A) and (C).

² R.C. 4513.612(E).

³ R.C. 4513.612(A).

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	02-28-19
Reported, H. Transportation and Public Safety	05-15-19
Passed House (94-1)	05-22-19
