



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

## Bill Analysis

Margaret E. Marcy

### Am. H.B. 154\*

131st General Assembly

(As Reported by S. Transportation, Commerce & Labor)

**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

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## 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 the operator of a vehicle that is passing a bicycle to pass at a distance of three feet or greater.

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## 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.<sup>1</sup> 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;

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\* This analysis was prepared before the report of the Senate Transportation, Commerce & Labor Committee appeared in the Senate Journal. Note that the list of co-sponsors and the legislative history may be incomplete.

<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup>

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

The bill requires the operator of a vehicle that is overtaking and passing a bicycle to provide a safe passing distance to the left of the bicycle of three feet or greater. Current law generally provides that when the operator of a vehicle overtakes another vehicle traveling in the same direction, including a bicycle, the operator must "pass to the left thereof at a safe distance."<sup>3</sup> However, current law does not specify what constitutes a safe distance.

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## **HISTORY**

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>DATE</b>
Introduced	04-13-15
Reported, H. Armed Services, Veterans Affairs, & Public Safety	06-25-15
Passed House (81-16)	05-24-16
Reported, S. Transportation, Commerce & Labor	---

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<sup>2</sup> R.C. 4511.132(A)(1) to (3).

<sup>3</sup> R.C. 4511.27(A)(1).

