



**State Representatives
John Patterson & John Becker**

House Bill 421
Sponsor Testimony
House Transportation and Public Safety Committee
January 24, 2018

(Rep. Patterson begins)

Chairman Green, Vice-Chair Greenspan, Ranking Member Sheehy, and distinguished members of the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee, thank you for the opportunity to offer sponsor testimony on House Bill 421, legislation that would allow motor vehicle owners to indicate on a vehicle's title whether it is a replica vehicle.

As many of you know, hot rod enthusiasts not only purchase true vintage vehicles, but they can also purchase separate parts or even full kits to build their own vintage replicas. Currently, Ohio titles for motor vehicles do not distinguish between genuine vintage vehicles and replicas. HB 421 would solve this issue by allowing replica owners to request that their title indicates that their motor vehicle is a replica motor vehicle.

Further, as of 2017, low volume manufacturers (defined as producing up to 5,000 vehicles a year in global production) now have the option, as per federal law, to sell up to 325 completed replica vehicles each year. Before this time, companies were not permitted to sell turn-key cars as the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration regulated these vehicles as if they were current model years and not replica cars. The point is, more of these vehicles will be on our streets, roads, and highways. It is our wish that the legislature provides a pathway for Ohio's car enthusiasts to purchase or build such a replica vehicle and have the visual representation (from a law enforcement perspective) match the replica date as it appears on the vehicle registration.

While the bill we introduced is relatively straightforward, we recently realized that it failed to require individuals to provide any kind of proof or documentation that their motor vehicle is, in fact, a replica of what they claim it to be. My joint sponsor will explain the changes we would like to propose to the committee in a substitute version of HB 421.

(Rep. Becker begins)

Thank you for allowing me to speak to Substitute House Bill 421 today, which we plan to send to the committee soon.

Upon analysis of potential areas of confusion, the concern arose that replica vehicles could have multiple and creative variations from the original vehicle. Those variations could be modern engines, electronic technology, and various accessories and enhancements. With that in mind, we thought it was important to specify that only the general exterior appearance reasonably creates a facsimile of the original.

Hence, the purpose of the sub bill is to clarify the intent of the sponsors. The intent is that the vehicle owner or builder would have the ability to exercise creativity to enhance, yet reasonably and generally replicate, a classic car.

Thank you for your time and attention today. We would be glad to answer any questions or address any concerns the committee may have.