

# WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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MARK WASYLYSHYN  
*Sheriff*



ERIC L. REYNOLDS  
*Chief Deputy*

12/09/19

Dear Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce Committee,

I am contacting you about Senate Bill 179, which would continue the front plate requirement on Ohio vehicles. I feel very strongly for the sake of public safety that we must continue having both plates.

Most roads in Ohio are two lanes. Driving down the road it is almost impossible to see the rear plate of approaching traffic. Numerous times in my career I was looking for a criminal and needed to see the license plate to find the suspect, often times while I was en route to the scene of the crime. By looking at the front of each vehicle I could see if I was passing the suspect.

School bus drivers, even with cameras, will significantly decrease the number of times they will be able to capture a license number which we must have to issue a citation. This reason alone should make the argument to keep both plates!


As you know, security cameras are very common. We solve crimes by capturing the suspect and vehicle on camera. By only having one plate this reduces the odds of getting a clear enough picture of the plate.

I have read the argument that the front plate interferes with autonomous driving vehicles. Currently Cadillac Supercruise, Tesla's system along with Mercedes, who are the leaders in this technology all function with front plates. The camera is in front of the rear view mirror in the windshield. Additional sensors are in the bumper, not affected by the plate.

The manufacturers and dealers also complain about the cost of selling vehicles in Ohio with front bracket. 33/50 states require the front plate and this is a minimal cost of the vehicles sold in most of our country.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions. This is an important issue for Ohioans.

Sincerely,

  
Mark Wasylshyn