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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

H.B. 384  
133<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly

## Bill Analysis

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primary Sponsors:** Reps. Boggs and Leland

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### SUMMARY

#### **Petition for a reduced speed limit**

- Authorizes a local authority to request the Director of Transportation to lower the prima-facie speed limit on a street or highway within the local authority's jurisdiction without conducting an engineering study, which is typically required, if all of the following apply:
  - The local authority submits the request via a resolution;
  - The street or highway is less than 35 miles per hour; and
  - The local authority submits a petition from local residents along with the resolution.
- Requires the petition to include the signatures of at least 51% of the adults who reside on real property located on the portion of the street at issue.
- Requires the Director, in making a determination regarding the speed limit modification, to take into account and give due consideration to the petition.

#### **Petition for the installation of a stop sign**

- Permits local residents or neighborhood organizations representing those residents to submit a petition to the Director or the proper local authority requesting that a stop sign be erected at an intersection where a stop sign currently is not present.
- Requires the petition to include the signatures of at least 51% of the adults who reside on real property within a specified distance of the intersection.
- Requires the Director or local authority to determine whether a stop sign should be erected at the petitioned-for intersection, give due consideration to the petition, and notify the petitioner, in writing, of the final decision.

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## DETAILED ANALYSIS

### Petition for a reduced speed limit

Current law permits a local authority, on the basis of criteria established by an engineering study, to adopt a resolution requesting the Director of Transportation to determine and declare a reduced prima-facie speed limit on any part of a highway under its jurisdiction.<sup>1</sup>

In the case of a request regarding a street or highway with a speed limit of 35 miles per hour or less, the bill provides that a local authority may submit a resolution to the Director without conducting an engineering study if either of the following submit a petition supporting the request for the lower prima-facie speed limit with the resolution:

1. A person who resides on the street or highway; or
2. A recognized neighborhood association or organization that represents the area within which the street or highway is located.<sup>2</sup>

The petitioner must specify in the petition, with reasonable detail, the relevant portion of the street or highway. The petitioner also must include with the petition the signatures of at least 51% of the adults who reside on real property located on the portion of the street or highway at issue.<sup>3</sup>

On receipt of the resolution and the petition, the Director must take into account and give due consideration to the petition in determining whether to declare a lower prima-facie speed limit on the subject portion of the street or highway. The Director must notify the local authority and petitioner in writing of the Director's decision regarding the requested lower prima-facie speed limit. The Director also may withdraw the new lower speed limit if the Director determines that the altered speed limit becomes unreasonable. Any adjustments to the speed limit become effective when signs specifying the altered speed are erected.<sup>4</sup>

### Petition for the installation of a stop sign

The bill permits any of the following to submit a petition to the Director or the proper local authority, as the case may be, requesting that a stop sign be erected at an intersection where a stop sign currently is not present:

1. A person who resides within a one-quarter mile radius of the intersection if the intersection is within the boundaries of a municipal corporation;
2. A person who resides within a one-half mile radius of the intersection if the intersection is not within the boundaries of a municipal corporation; or

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<sup>1</sup> R.C. 4511.21(l)(1)(a).

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 4511.21(l)(1)(b).

<sup>3</sup> R.C. 4511.21(l)(b)(iii).

<sup>4</sup> R.C. 4511.21(l)(1)(b).

3. A recognized neighborhood association or organization that represents the area within which the intersection is located.<sup>5</sup>

The petitioner must specify in the petition the intersection at which the petitioner desires the stop sign to be erected by describing in detail the intersection location. If the intersection is located within the boundaries of a municipal corporation, the petitioner also must include with the petition the signatures of at least 51% of the adults who reside on real property within a one-quarter mile radius of the intersection location. If the intersection location is not within the boundaries of a municipal corporation, the petitioner must include the signatures of at least 51% of the persons who own real property within a one-half mile radius of the intersection location.<sup>6</sup>

On receipt of the petition, the Director or local authority must determine whether a stop sign should be erected at the intersection location. The Director or local authority, in addition to consulting the Ohio Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (OMUTCD), must take into account and give due consideration to the petition in determining whether to erect the requested stop sign. The Director or local authority must then notify the petitioner in writing of the Director's or local authority's decision regarding the requested stop sign. Finally, if the Director or local authority decides to install the stop sign, the Director or local authority must do so not later than 30 days after the date the Director or the local authority issues the written notice.<sup>7</sup>

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## HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	10-30-19

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<sup>5</sup> R.C. 4511.11(B)(1)(a) and (b).

<sup>6</sup> R.C. 4511.11(B)(2).

<sup>7</sup> R.C. 4511.11(B)(3).