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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

H.B. 449  
135<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

## Bill Analysis

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primary Sponsors:** Reps. Weinstein and Abdullahi

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### SUMMARY

- Requires the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to translate the Digest of Motor Vehicle Laws into additional languages.

### DETAILED ANALYSIS

#### Digest of Motor Vehicle Laws translations

The bill requires the Director of Public Safety to ensure that the Digest of Motor Vehicle Laws, published by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV), is written and publicly available in every language in which the BMV administers driver's license-related examinations. Those examinations include both the knowledge test for a temporary instruction permit and the driving skills test for a driver's license. Additionally, the BMV must make all other related reference documents available in those same languages.<sup>1</sup>

Ohio law specifies that the Registrar of Motor Vehicles may conduct the knowledge and driving skills tests in formats that a person who is either illiterate or limited in his or her knowledge of English can understand. However, the examining officer must still verify that the applicant has a reasonable knowledge of motor vehicle laws and understands highway signs printed in English.<sup>2</sup> The BMV provides the knowledge test in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Japanese, Russian, Somali, and Spanish. However, the [Digest of Motor Vehicle Laws](#) available on the BMV website is only available in English (print and audio), Somali, and Spanish.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> R.C. 4507.113.

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 4507.11(A)(1).

<sup>3</sup> Available by clicking on clicking on "Licenses & ID Cards" in the navigation bar, and then clicking on "First Issuance" on the BMV website at: [bmv.ohio.gov](http://bmv.ohio.gov).

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## HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	03-14-24

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