OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

www.lsc.ohio.gov

Office of Research and Drafting

Legislative Budget Office

H.B. 616
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Abdullahi and Sigrist

Larry Gunter, Jr., Research Analyst

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.[1]

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.[2] The BMV provides the knowledge test in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Japanese, Russian, Somali, and Spanish. However, the Digest of Motor Vehicle Laws (also referred

[1] R.C. 4507.113.

[2] R.C. 4507.11(A)(1), not in the bill.

to as the Ohio Driver Manual) available on the BMV website is only available in English (print and audio), Somali, Spanish, and Haitian Creole.[3]

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	11-25-25

ANHB0616IN-136/ts

[3] 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.