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S.B. 467
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Patton

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SUMMARY

- Broadens the circumstances in which a peace officer must use a marked police car when enforcing Ohio's motor vehicle and traffic laws.
- Requires police car markings to be consistent with those used on other law enforcement vehicles in the same jurisdiction.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Marked police cars for traffic law enforcement

The bill broadens the circumstances in which a peace officer must use a marked police car when enforcing Ohio's motor vehicle and traffic laws. It also requires police car markings to be consistent with those used on other law enforcement vehicles in the jurisdiction.

Under current law, a peace officer who is on duty for the exclusive or main purpose of enforcing Ohio's criminal misdemeanor motor vehicle or traffic laws must use a police car that is marked in some distinctive manner or color. The bill modifies that requirement in two ways.

First, it extends the requirement that a peace officer use a marked car to circumstances in which the peace officer is enforcing civil traffic violations recorded by a traffic law photo-monitoring device (e.g., red light or speed cameras).

Second, it heightens the marking standard by requiring the police car's markings to be equivalent with those used on other law enforcement vehicles used by the same jurisdiction, rather than merely distinctive in manner or color.[1]

[1] R.C. 4549.13.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	08-05-26

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