

As Introduced

133rd General Assembly

Regular Session

2019-2020

H. B. No. 445

Representatives Green, McClain

Cosponsors: Representatives Lipps, Seitz

A BILL

To amend section 4513.17 of the Revised Code to 1
clarify that a motorcycle may have a modulating 2
headlight that meets federal standards. 3

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 4513.17 of the Revised Code be 4
amended to read as follows: 5

Sec. 4513.17. (A) Whenever a motor vehicle equipped with 6
headlights also is equipped with any auxiliary lights or 7
spotlight or any other light on the front thereof projecting a 8
beam of an intensity greater than three hundred candle power, 9
not more than a total of five of any such lights on the front of 10
a vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when the vehicle is 11
upon a highway. 12

(B) Any lighted light or illuminating device upon a motor 13
vehicle, other than headlights, spotlights, signal lights, or 14
auxiliary driving lights, that projects a beam of light of an 15
intensity greater than three hundred candle power, shall be so 16
directed that no part of the beam will strike the level of the 17
roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 18

seventy-five feet from the vehicle. 19

(C) (1) Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles, 20
except as a means for indicating a right or a left turn, or in 21
the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring unusual 22
care in approaching, or overtaking or passing. ~~This~~ 23

(2) The prohibition established in division (C) (1) of this 24
section does not apply to ~~emergency~~ any of the following: 25

(a) Emergency vehicles, road service vehicles servicing or 26
towing a disabled vehicle, stationary waste collection vehicles 27
actively collecting garbage, refuse, trash, or recyclable 28
materials on the roadside, rural mail delivery vehicles, 29
vehicles as provided in section 4513.182 of the Revised Code, 30
highway maintenance vehicles, funeral hearses, funeral escort 31
vehicles, and similar equipment operated by the department or 32
local authorities, ~~which shall be provided~~ such vehicles are 33
equipped with and display, when used on a street or highway for 34
the special purpose necessitating such lights, a flashing, 35
oscillating, or rotating amber light, but shall not display a 36
flashing, oscillating, or rotating light of any other color, ~~nor~~ 37
to vehicles; 38

(b) Vehicles or machinery permitted by section 4513.11 of 39
the Revised Code to have a flashing red light; 40

~~(2) When used on a street or highway, farm~~ (c) Farm 41
machinery and vehicles escorting farm machinery ~~may be, provided~~ 42
such machinery and vehicles are equipped with and display, when 43
used on a street or highway, a flashing, oscillating, or 44
rotating amber light, ~~and the prohibition contained in division~~ 45
~~(C) (1) of this section does not apply to such machinery or~~ 46
vehicles. Farm machinery also may display the lights described 47

in section 4513.11 of the Revised Code. 48

(D) (1) Except a person operating a public safety vehicle, 49
as defined in division (E) of section 4511.01 of the Revised 50
Code, or a school bus, no person shall operate, move, or park 51
upon, or permit to stand within the right-of-way of any public 52
street or highway any vehicle or equipment that is equipped with 53
and displaying a flashing red or a flashing combination red and 54
white light, or an oscillating or rotating red light, or a 55
combination red and white oscillating or rotating light, ~~and~~ 56
~~except~~. 57

(2) Except a public law enforcement officer, or other 58
person sworn to enforce the criminal and traffic laws of the 59
state, operating a public safety vehicle when on duty, no person 60
shall operate, move, or park upon, or permit to stand within the 61
right-of-way of any street or highway any vehicle or equipment 62
that is equipped with, or upon which is mounted, and displaying 63
a flashing blue or a flashing combination blue and white light, 64
or an oscillating or rotating blue light, or a combination blue 65
and white oscillating or rotating light. 66

(E) This section does not prohibit the use of ~~warning any~~ 67
of the following: 68

(1) The warning lights required by law or the simultaneous 69
flashing of turn signals on disabled vehicles or on vehicles 70
being operated in unfavorable atmospheric conditions in order to 71
enhance their visibility. ~~This section also does not prohibit~~ 72
~~the;~~ 73

(2) The simultaneous flashing of turn signals or warning 74
lights either on farm machinery or vehicles escorting farm 75
machinery, when used on a street or highway; 76

(3) A modulating headlight on a motorcycle, provided the 77
headlight and the modulation comply with the federal motor 78
vehicle safety standards set forth in 49 C.F.R. 571.108. 79

(F) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor 80
misdemeanor. 81

Section 2. That existing section 4513.17 of the Revised 82
Code is hereby repealed. 83