

**As Reported by the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee**

**133rd General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2019-2020**

**Am. H. B. No. 550**

**Representative Hoops**

**Cosponsor: Representative Sheehy**

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**A BILL**

To amend sections 4508.08 and 4513.17 of the  
Revised Code to make changes to the laws related  
to the motorcycle safety and education program  
and to clarify that a motorcycle may have a  
modulating headlight that meets federal  
standards.

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

**Section 1.** That sections 4508.08 and 4513.17 of the  
Revised Code be amended to read as follows:

**Sec. 4508.08.** There is hereby created in the department of  
public safety the motorcycle safety and education program. The  
director of public safety shall administer the program in  
accordance with the following guidelines:

(A) (1) The program shall include courses of instruction  
conducted at vocational schools, community colleges, or other  
suitable locations, by instructors who have obtained  
certification in the manner and form prescribed by the director.  
The courses shall meet standards established in rules adopted by  
the department in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised

Code. The courses may include instruction for novice motorcycle operators, instruction in motorist awareness and alcohol and drug awareness, and any other kind of instruction the director considers appropriate. A reasonable tuition fee, as determined by the director, may be charged. The director may authorize private organizations or corporations to offer courses without tuition fee restrictions, but such entities are not eligible for reimbursement of expenses or subsidies from the motorcycle safety and education fund created in section 4501.13 of the Revised Code.

(2) The director shall do both of the following:

(a) Authorize private organizations or corporations to offer any nationally recognized motorcycle operator training courses or curriculum and any course established in accordance with division (A) (1) of this section;

(b) Permit an applicant for a motorcycle operator's endorsement or a restricted license that permits only the operation of a motorcycle who has completed any motorcycle operator training course or curriculum as authorized in division (A) (2) (a) of this section successfully within the preceding sixty days to be eligible for the examination waiver as described in division (B) (1) of section 4507.11 of the Revised Code.

(B) In addition to courses of instruction, the program may include provisions for equipment purchases, marketing and promotion, improving motorcycle license testing procedures, and any other provisions the director considers appropriate.

(C) The director shall evaluate the program every two years and shall periodically inspect the facilities, equipment,

and procedures used in the courses of instruction. 48

(D) The director shall appoint at least one training 49  
specialist who shall oversee the operation of the program, 50  
establish courses of instruction, and supervise instructors. The 51  
training specialist shall be a licensed motorcycle operator and 52  
shall obtain certification in the manner and form prescribed by 53  
the director. 54

(E) The director may contract with other public agencies 55  
or with private organizations or corporations to assist in 56  
administering the program. 57

(F) Notwithstanding any provision of Chapter 102. of the 58  
Revised Code, the director, in order to administer the program, 59  
may participate in a motorcycle manufacturer's motorcycle loan 60  
program. 61

(G) The director shall contract with an insurance company 62  
or companies authorized to do business in this state to purchase 63  
a policy or policies of insurance with respect to the 64  
establishment or administration, or any other aspect of the 65  
operation of the program. 66

(H) A private organization or corporation that offers any 67  
nationally recognized motorcycle operator training course or 68  
curriculum is not required to use the end-of-course skills 69  
evaluation used by a course established in accordance with 70  
division (A)(1) of this section if the evaluation used by the 71  
private organization or corporation meets or exceeds the 72  
requirements of the evaluation authorized by the director under 73  
this section. 74

(I) An instructor for a nationally recognized motorcycle 75  
operator training course or curriculum offered by an authorized 76

private organization or corporation shall obtain certification 77  
in the manner and form prescribed by the director under division 78  
(A) (1) of this section and in accordance with the rules adopted 79  
by the director. However, the director shall not require an 80  
instructor for a nationally recognized motorcycle operator 81  
training course or curriculum to participate in the state 82  
instructor training curriculum if both of the following apply: 83

(1) The instructor has completed the training required by 84  
the authorized private organization or corporation and the 85  
training meets or exceeds the state instructor training 86  
curriculum. 87

(2) The instructor has met all other state requirements 88  
for certification. 89

**Sec. 4513.17.** (A) Whenever a motor vehicle equipped with 90  
headlights also is equipped with any auxiliary lights or 91  
spotlight or any other light on the front thereof projecting a 92  
beam of an intensity greater than three hundred candle power, 93  
not more than a total of five of any such lights on the front of 94  
a vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when the vehicle is 95  
upon a highway. 96

(B) Any lighted light or illuminating device upon a motor 97  
vehicle, other than headlights, spotlights, signal lights, or 98  
auxiliary driving lights, that projects a beam of light of an 99  
intensity greater than three hundred candle power, shall be so 100  
directed that no part of the beam will strike the level of the 101  
roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than 102  
seventy-five feet from the vehicle. 103

(C) (1) Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles, 104  
except as a means for indicating a right or a left turn, or in 105

the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring unusual 106  
care in approaching, or overtaking or passing. ~~This~~ 107

(2) The prohibition established in division (C)(1) of this 108  
section does not apply to ~~emergency~~ any of the following: 109

(a) Emergency vehicles, road service vehicles servicing or 110  
towing a disabled vehicle, stationary waste collection vehicles 111  
actively collecting garbage, refuse, trash, or recyclable 112  
materials on the roadside, rural mail delivery vehicles, 113  
vehicles as provided in section 4513.182 of the Revised Code, 114  
highway maintenance vehicles, funeral hearses, funeral escort 115  
vehicles, and similar equipment operated by the department or 116  
local authorities, ~~which shall be provided such vehicles are~~ 117  
equipped with and display, when used on a street or highway for 118  
the special purpose necessitating such lights, a flashing, 119  
oscillating, or rotating amber light, but shall not display a 120  
flashing, oscillating, or rotating light of any other color, ~~nor~~ 121  
~~to vehicles;~~ 122

(b) Vehicles or machinery permitted by section 4513.11 of 123  
the Revised Code to have a flashing red light ~~;~~ 124

~~(2) When used on a street or highway, farm~~ (c) Farm 125  
machinery and vehicles escorting farm machinery ~~may be, provided~~ 126  
such machinery and vehicles are equipped with and display, when 127  
used on a street or highway, a flashing, oscillating, or 128  
rotating amber light, ~~and the prohibition contained in division~~ 129  
~~(C)(1) of this section does not apply to such machinery or~~ 130  
~~vehicles.~~ Farm machinery also may display the lights described 131  
in section 4513.11 of the Revised Code. 132

(D)(1) Except a person operating a public safety vehicle, 133  
as defined in division (E) of section 4511.01 of the Revised 134

Code, or a school bus, no person shall operate, move, or park 135  
upon, or permit to stand within the right-of-way of any public 136  
street or highway any vehicle or equipment that is equipped with 137  
and displaying a flashing red or a flashing combination red and 138  
white light, or an oscillating or rotating red light, or a 139  
combination red and white oscillating or rotating light;~~and~~ 140  
~~except.~~ 141

(2) Except a public law enforcement officer, or other 142  
person sworn to enforce the criminal and traffic laws of the 143  
state, operating a public safety vehicle when on duty, no person 144  
shall operate, move, or park upon, or permit to stand within the 145  
right-of-way of any street or highway any vehicle or equipment 146  
that is equipped with, or upon which is mounted, and displaying 147  
a flashing blue or a flashing combination blue and white light, 148  
or an oscillating or rotating blue light, or a combination blue 149  
and white oscillating or rotating light. 150

(E) This section does not prohibit the use of ~~warning any~~ 151  
of the following: 152

(1) The warning lights required by law or the simultaneous 153  
flashing of turn signals on disabled vehicles or on vehicles 154  
being operated in unfavorable atmospheric conditions in order to 155  
enhance their visibility. ~~This section also does not prohibit~~ 156  
~~the;~~ 157

(2) The simultaneous flashing of turn signals or warning 158  
lights either on farm machinery or vehicles escorting farm 159  
machinery, when used on a street or highway; 160

(3) A modulating headlight on a motorcycle, provided the 161  
headlight and the modulation comply with the federal motor 162  
vehicle safety standards set forth in 49 C.F.R. 571.108. 163

(F) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor	164
misdemeanor.	165
<b>Section 2.</b> That existing sections 4508.08 and 4513.17 of	166
the Revised Code are hereby repealed.	167