

**As Reported by the Senate Highways and Transportation  
Committee**

**128th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2009-2010**

**S. B. No. 166**

**Senator Hughes**

**Cosponsors: Senators Goodman, Turner, Fedor, Schaffer, Patton**

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**A B I L L**

To enact section 4511.454 of the Revised Code to 1  
allow emergency personnel in public safety 2  
vehicles to report traffic law violations under 3  
certain circumstances. 4

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

**Section 1.** That section 4511.454 of the Revised Code be 5  
enacted to read as follows: 6

**Sec. 4511.454.** (A) When the failure of a motor vehicle 7  
operator to yield the right-of-way to a public safety vehicle as 8  
required by division (A) of section 4511.45 of the Revised Code 9  
impedes the ability of the public safety vehicle to respond to an 10  
emergency, any emergency personnel in the public safety vehicle 11  
may report the license plate number and a general description of 12  
the vehicle and of the operator of the vehicle to the law 13  
enforcement agency exercising jurisdiction over the area where the 14  
alleged violation occurred. Any such emergency personnel also may 15  
report any other apparent violation of the traffic laws of this 16  
state occurring at the same time. 17

(B) Upon receipt of a report under this section, the law 18

enforcement agency shall conduct an investigation to attempt to 19  
determine or confirm the identity of the operator of the vehicle 20  
at the time of the alleged violation. If the identity of the 21  
operator at the time of the alleged violation is established, the 22  
reporting of the license plate number of the vehicle shall 23  
establish probable cause for the law enforcement agency to issue a 24  
citation for the violation of division (A) of section 4511.45 of 25  
the Revised Code. In the case of other reported apparent traffic 26  
law violations or if the identity of the operator of the vehicle 27  
at the time of the alleged violation cannot be established, the 28  
law enforcement agency shall issue a warning to the person who 29  
owned the vehicle at the time of the alleged violation, except in 30  
the case of a leased or rented vehicle, the warning shall be 31  
issued to the person who leased or rented the vehicle at the time 32  
of the alleged violation. 33

(C) As used in this section: 34

(1) "License plate" includes any temporary license placard 35  
issued under section 4503.182 of the Revised Code or similar law 36  
of another jurisdiction. 37

(2) "Public safety vehicle" does not include a vehicle used 38  
by the motor carrier enforcement unit for the enforcement of 39  
orders and rules of the public utilities commission. 40