



**H.B. 294**

125th General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

**Reps. Ujvagi, Perry, S. Patton, Carano, Key, Miller, Beatty, Boccieri**

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**BILL SUMMARY**

- Requires the headlights of a vehicle to be lighted when the windshield wipers of that vehicle are in use.

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**CONTENT AND OPERATION**

Current law generally requires every vehicle operated on a street or highway within Ohio to display lighted lights and illuminating devices as required by law during the time from sunset to sunrise and at any other time when, because of insufficient natural light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions, persons, vehicles, and substantial objects on the highway are not discernible at a distance of 1,000 feet ahead.

The bill expands these requirements to include the use of lighted lights and illuminating devices when the windshield wipers of the vehicle are in use because of precipitation on the windshield. (R.C. 4513.03.)

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**COMMENT**

Under the bill, the penalties for violating the requirement concerning lighted lights while windshield wipers are in use do not differ from the penalties in existing law concerning the display of lighted lights under other conditions. Existing penalties for those who are convicted of or plead guilty to such violations are as follows:

(1) On a first offense, the person is guilty of a minor misdemeanor and is subject to a fine of not more than \$100;

(2) On a second offense within one year of the first offense, the person is guilty of a fourth degree misdemeanor and is subject to a term of imprisonment of not more than 30 days, a fine of not more than \$250, or both;

(3) On each subsequent offense within one year of the first offense, the person is guilty of a third degree misdemeanor and is subject to a term of imprisonment of not more than 60 days, a fine of not more than \$500, or both. (R.C. 4513.99(C), not in the bill.)

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## **HISTORY**

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	10-07-03	p. 1093

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