Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

Linda S. Crawford

S.B. 113

128th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Sens. Patton, Goodman, Kearney

BILL SUMMARY

- Upon request, authorizes placement of a warning sign advising of the presence of a deaf or blind child on a state highway or street or highway under the jurisdiction of a local authority.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

The bill establishes two methods for requesting placement of a warning sign advising of the presence of a deaf or blind child, depending on whether the road in question is a state highway or under the jurisdiction of a local authority (see **COMMENT**).

First, upon request by a local authority, the Department of Transportation is required to place and maintain on a state highway a warning sign advising of the presence of a deaf or blind child *if* the Department considers the sign necessary for public safety and welfare. The bill requires the Director of Transportation to establish guidelines and procedures as necessary to implement its provisions and authorizes the Director to require supporting information, including medical verification of the child's disability and proof of the child's residence near the state highway. (Sec. 4511.111(A).)

Next, the bill requires the legislative authority of a local authority to establish a program for the placement on any street or highway under its jurisdiction of warning signs advising of the presence of a deaf or blind child. The program must include (1) a form allowing the parent or guardian of a deaf or blind child to request the placement of a warning sign and (2) a process for the appropriate traffic or engineering personnel to approve or disapprove the request, with an explanation, based on public safety and welfare considerations. The form may require the parent or guardian to provide medical verification of the child's disability and further may require the parent or

guardian to notify the local authority in writing when the family moves, the child no longer lives at home, the child's disability improves, or the child reaches a specified age indicative of personal safety awareness. (Sec. 4511.111(B)(1).) Additionally, if a parent or guardian submits a request to a local authority and the request is for placement of a warning sign on a state highway, the local authority must forward the request to the Department of Transportation in accordance with the procedures the bill requires the Director to adopt. (Sec. 4511.111(B)(2).)

COMMENT

Under existing law, "local authority" includes every county and municipal corporation (sec. 4511.01(AA), not in the bill).

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	04-23-09

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