

Public Safety and Security Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-5658

AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF RED AND BLUE LIGHTS ON VEHICLES
Title: OPERATED BY POLICE OFFICERS.

Vote Date: 3/19/2019

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 2/14/2019

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Public Safety & Security Committee
Rep. Ben McGorty, 122nd Dist.
Rep. Fred Camillo, 151st Dist.
Rep. Rick L. Hayes, 51st Dist.

REASONS FOR BILL:

Certain rideshare companies use illuminated blue or red lights on the vehicles to identify their company name. This can cause confusion for motorists that mistake them for police vehicles. The objective of this bill is to restrict the usage of blue and red illuminated lights from all vehicles except state and local police vehicles.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

[Judeen Wrinn, Acting Commissioner, Department of Motor Vehicles](#)

In her testimony, Acting Commissioner Wrinn expressed that the DMV supports H.B. 5658. The DMV believes that restricting steady illuminated red and blue lights to police vehicles is going to be a positive attribute to the public's safety. She expressed that the passage of this bill will give motorists clarity on whether or not they are dealing with an emergency vehicle.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

[Ben McGorty, Representative, 122nd district](#)

Representative McGorty expressed that many rideshare companies have illuminating lights that sometimes resemble an emergency vehicle. He stated that the lights are distracting to motorists, and that there should not be any confusion as to whether or not an emergency vehicle is traveling their way.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None was expressed for H.B. 5658

Reported by: Nicoletta Blevins, Assistant Clerk Date: 3/21/2019