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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 831 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY M. K. KELLER, READSHAW, BARBIN, BARRAR, BLOOM,  
V. BROWN, CARROLL, CAUSER, CUTLER, DeLUCA, DiGIROLAMO,  
EVERETT, GILLEN, GREINER, A. HARRIS, KAUFFMAN, KINSEY,  
KNOWLES, KORTZ, LONGIETTI, MARSICO, MASSER, PICKETT, QUIGLEY,  
RAPP, REESE, SCHLOSSBERG, SNYDER, WARD, WHEELAND AND  
ZIMMERMAN, MARCH 30, 2017

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, MARCH 30, 2017

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, in general provisions relating to operation of  
3 vehicles, further providing for obedience to authorized  
4 persons directing traffic and providing for drivers in  
5 organized motorcycle processions; in rules of the road in  
6 general, further providing for following too closely; in  
7 inspection of vehicles, further providing for inspection by  
8 police or Commonwealth personnel; and, in enforcement,  
9 further providing for investigation by police officers.

10 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
11 hereby enacts as follows:

12 Section 1. Section 3102 of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania  
13 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

14 § 3102. Obedience to authorized persons directing traffic.

15 No person shall willfully fail or refuse to comply with any  
16 lawful order or direction of:

17 (1) any uniformed police officer, sheriff or constable  
18 or, in an emergency, a railroad or street railway police  
19 officer;

1 (2) any appropriately attired person, including an agent  
2 or employee of the funeral director during a funeral or a  
3 designated member of an organized motorcycle procession under  
4 section 3107.1 (relating to drivers in organized motorcycle  
5 processions), authorized to direct, control or regulate  
6 traffic;

7 (3) any employee who has been trained in traffic control  
8 by a licensed and insured private security company and who is  
9 acting in the scope of employment; or

10 (4) any driver of a certified escort vehicle as defined  
11 under section 3108 (relating to drivers of certified escort  
12 vehicles) and who is acting in the capacity as a driver of a  
13 certified escort vehicle.

14 Section 2. Title 75 is amended by adding a section to read:  
15 § 3107.1. Drivers in organized motorcycle processions.

16 (a) General rule.--The driver of a vehicle or motorcycle  
17 that is being driven in an organized motorcycle procession may:

18 (1) Park or stand irrespective of the provisions of this  
19 part.

20 (2) Proceed past a red signal indication or stop sign if  
21 the lead vehicle or motorcycle in the procession started  
22 through the intersection while the signal indicator was green  
23 or, in the case of a stop sign, the lead vehicle or  
24 motorcycle first came to a complete stop before proceeding  
25 through the intersection.

26 (b) Visual signals required.--The privileges granted by this  
27 section shall apply only if the lead and trailing vehicle or  
28 motorcycle in an organized motorcycle procession is equipped  
29 with and displays a yellow flashing light, lighted head lamps  
30 and emergency flashers. All participants are required to have

1 lighted head lamps and emergency flashers.

2 (c) Visual signals authorized.--A motorcycle driven in an  
3 organized motorcycle procession may bear a yellow bandana or  
4 cloth of at least two square feet which is tied to the  
5 motorcycle mirror, handlebars or similar frontal area for the  
6 purpose of designating the motorcycle as part of the procession.

7 (d) Right-of-way to emergency vehicles.--This section does  
8 not relieve the driver of a vehicle or motorcycle which is being  
9 driven in an organized motorcycle procession from yielding the  
10 right-of-way to an emergency vehicle making use of audible and  
11 visual signals or from the duty to drive with due regard for the  
12 safety of all persons.

13 (e) Definition.--As used in this section, the term  
14 "organized motorcycle procession" means a group of motorcycle  
15 drivers participating in an organized motorcycle ride in  
16 accordance with the laws of this Commonwealth.

17 Section 3. Sections 3310(c), 4704(a)(2) and 6308(b) of Title  
18 75 are amended to read:

19 § 3310. Following too closely.

20 \* \* \*

21 (c) Caravans and motorcades.--Upon any roadway outside of an  
22 urban district, motor vehicles being driven in a caravan or  
23 motorcade, whether or not towing other vehicles, shall be so  
24 operated as to allow sufficient space between each vehicle or  
25 combination of vehicles so as to enable any other vehicle to  
26 enter and occupy space without danger. This subsection does not  
27 apply to funeral processions under section 3107 (relating to  
28 drivers in funeral processions) or organized motorcycle  
29 processions under section 3107.1 (relating to drivers in  
30 organized motorcycle processions), which shall not be

1 interrupted by any vehicle other than an emergency vehicle.

2 § 4704. Inspection by police or Commonwealth personnel.

3 (a) Authority to inspect.--

4 \* \* \*

5 (2) Systematic vehicle inspection programs.--Any

6 Pennsylvania State Police officer or qualified Commonwealth

7 employee engaged in a systematic vehicle inspection program

8 may inspect any vehicle, driver, documents, equipment and

9 load to determine whether they meet standards established in

10 department regulations. A systematic vehicle inspection

11 program shall not be based on stopping only a particular type

12 of vehicle, such as a passenger car, truck or motorcycle.

13 Notwithstanding this subsection, a systematic vehicle

14 inspection program may stop only commercial motor vehicles,

15 as defined in section 1603 (relating to definitions).

16 \* \* \*

17 § 6308. Investigation by police officers.

18 \* \* \*

19 (b) Authority of police officer.--Whenever a police officer

20 is engaged in a systematic program of checking vehicles or

21 drivers or has reasonable suspicion that a violation of this

22 title is occurring or has occurred, he may stop a vehicle, upon

23 request or signal, for the purpose of checking the vehicle's

24 registration, proof of financial responsibility, vehicle

25 identification number or engine number or the driver's license,

26 or to secure such other information as the officer may

27 reasonably believe to be necessary to enforce the provisions of

28 this title. A systematic program of checking vehicles or drivers

29 shall not be based on stopping only a particular type of

30 vehicle, such as a passenger car, truck or motorcycle.

1 Notwithstanding this subsection, a systematic vehicle inspection  
2 program may stop only commercial motor vehicles, as defined in  
3 section 1603 (relating to definitions).

4 \* \* \*

5 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.