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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 454 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY CRUZ, YOUNGBLOOD, BURGOS, HILL-EVANS, KORTZ,  
READSHAW, MURT, NEILSON AND SIMS, FEBRUARY 11, 2019

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, FEBRUARY 11, 2019

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, in rules of the road in general, providing for  
3 removal of vehicles in a city of the first class.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
7 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 3355. Removal of vehicles in a city of the first class.

9 (a) Evidence of violation.--In cities of the first class,  
10 when a vehicle is found in violation of the provisions of this  
11 subchapter, prior to the removal of the vehicle, a towing and  
12 storage agent shall take digital photographs that clearly show  
13 all of the following:

14 (1) The vehicle's license plate.

15 (2) The violation for which the vehicle is being towed  
16 or removed.

17 (3) The posted sign, if any, identifying that  
18 unauthorized stopping, standing or parking is prohibited

1 where the vehicle was found and that unauthorized vehicles  
2 will be towed or removed.

3 (b) Towing and storage agent responsibilities.--Prior to  
4 accepting payment for the towing and storage of a vehicle, the  
5 towing and storage agent shall provide, without charge, a  
6 printed copy of the photographs to the owner or lienholder of a  
7 vehicle when that person claims the vehicle. Photographs shall  
8 be retained by the towing company for at least 60 days or until  
9 the vehicle is claimed, whichever is later.

10 (c) Enforcement.--The parking authority in a city of the  
11 first class shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement  
12 this section. If deemed necessary, the parking authority may  
13 establish penalties for towing and storage agents who violate  
14 the provisions of this section.

15 (d) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following  
16 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this  
17 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

18 "Towing and storage agent." In a city of the first class,  
19 the parking authority or its authorized agent. This term  
20 includes a person authorized to engage in the business of  
21 operating a wrecker or motor vehicle designed or constructed and  
22 used for the towing of abandoned or disabled vehicles.

23 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.