

# Legislative Analysis



## FUNERAL PROCESSION HAZARD LIGHTS AND PURPLE FLAGS

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<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

**House Bill 4072 as introduced**  
**Sponsor: Rep. Robert J. Bezotte**  
**Committee: Regulatory Reform**  
**Complete to 11-9-23**

Analysis available at  
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

### SUMMARY:

House Bill 4072 would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to specifically allow a vehicle in a funeral procession to use its hazard lights. The bill also would allow such a vehicle to display a purple flag. (Funeral procession flags now must be fluorescent orange.)

Currently, a vehicle in a funeral procession, when going to a place of burial, has the right-of-way over other nonemergency vehicles at an intersection if the vehicle displays a fluorescent orange flag with an authorized religious symbol (a black cross, the Star of David, or the crescent and star).

The bill would additionally allow these flags to be purple.

The bill also would specifically provide that a vehicle that is leading, escorting, or part of a funeral procession may activate the hazard warning lights described in section 698a of the code or activate the flashing, rotating, or oscillating purple or amber lights that vehicles in a funeral procession are already allowed to use under section 698(5)(g) of the code.

Section 698a now allows a driver to use hazard lights to warn other drivers of the presence of a traffic hazard that requires unusual care in approaching, overtaking, or passing.

Section 698(5)(g) now allows a vehicle leading or escorting a funeral procession, or any vehicle that is part of a funeral procession, to be equipped with flashing, rotating, or oscillating purple or amber lights and prohibits those lights from being activated except during a funeral procession.

The bill would take effect 90 days after its enactment.

MCL 257.654

### FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would have no fiscal impact on the state or local units of government.

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