**South Carolina General Assembly**

121st Session, 2015-2016

**H. 4496**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. Rutherford and G.R. Smith

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Introduced in the House on January 12, 2016

Currently residing in the House Committee on **Judiciary**

Summary: Unlawful to use an automatic number plate recognition system

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

12/3/2015 House Prefiled

12/3/2015 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary**

1/12/2016 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 82](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2016\01-12-16.docx))

1/12/2016 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 82](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2016\01-12-16.docx))

1/28/2016 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: G.R.Smith

View the latest [legislative information](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=4496&session=121&summary=B) at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[12/3/2015](file:///p:\pprever\2015-16\4496_20151203.docx)

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 23‑1‑235 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY TO USE OR EMPLOY AN AUTOMATIC NUMBER PLATE RECOGNITION SYSTEM AND TO PROVIDE A PENALTY.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Chapter 1, Title 23 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 23‑1‑235. (A) As used in this section, ‘automatic number plate recognition’ means a mass surveillance method that uses optical character recognition images to read and record an image of a vehicle’s license plate.

(B) Notwithstanding another provision of law, it is unlawful for a law enforcement agency to use or employ an automatic number plate recognition system. A law enforcement agency that violates this provision must be fined one thousand dollars for each violation. The fine must be placed in the state general fund.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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