HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Version: Second engrossment

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Subject: Collisions

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Overview

This bill modifies provisions governing motor vehicle crashes, stopping, collision reporting, and terminology. Among the changes, it: (1) replaces the term "accident" with "collision" for hit and run penalty provisions; (2) expands a driver's duty to stop for motor vehicle collisions and to investigate what was struck; and (3) expands conditions when a driver must remain at the scene and provide information. The changes also impact the statute on criminal vehicular operation.

Section

- 1 Collisions. Modifies a section governing stops and reporting of motor vehicle collisions. Among the changes, the bill:
 - revises terminology to use "collision" instead of "accident" for hit and run penalty provisions;
 - requires a driver to—in addition to stopping—investigate what was struck when a collision occurs;
 - amends provisions on remaining at the scene and providing information to include when a person knows or reasonably should know about the collision (e.g., one involving bodily injury or death);
 - clarifies that stops made following collisions with unattended vehicles must not unnecessarily obstruct traffic; and
 - makes technical changes.

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Section

2 Criminal vehicular homicide or operation; crime described. Makes conforming changes.