



HOUSE BILL 246: Liam's Law.

This Bill Analysis
reflects the contents
of the bill as it was
presented in
committee.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	House Judiciary 2. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 8, 2025
Introduced by:	Rep. Torbett	Prepared by:	Hannah Kendrick
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H246-CSCV-18		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *The Proposed Committee Substitute (PCS) to House Bill 246 would increase the penalties for reckless driving or street racing that causes serious injury or death and would increase penalties for hit and run offenses that result in death.*

CURRENT LAW AND BILL ANALYSIS:

The PCS to House Bill 246 would increase the penalty for reckless driving from a Class 2 misdemeanor to a Class 1 misdemeanor if the reckless driving causes serious injury and a Class A1 misdemeanor if the reckless driving causes serious bodily injury.

The penalty for unlawful racing on streets and highways would increase to a Class H felony if the speed competition causes serious injury and a Class G felony if the speed competition causes serious bodily injury or death. The penalty for placing or receiving a bet, wager, or other thing of value from the outcome of any prearranged speed competition would remain a Class 1 misdemeanor.

The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles ("Commissioner") would be required to revoke the drivers license of every person convicted of unlawful racing on streets and highways as follows:

- If the speed competition causes serious injury, four years. That person could apply for a new license after three years from revocation.
- If the speed competition causes serious bodily injury or death, permanently. That person could apply for a new license after seven years from revocation.
- For any other violation, three years. That person could apply for a new license after 18 months from revocation.

The Division of Motor Vehicles ("Division") could impose terms and conditions upon the new license for the balance of the revocation period. If the revocation is permanent, the restrictions and conditions would not be permitted to exceed three years.

Failure to stop in the event of a crash would remain a Class F felony, but if the crash results in the death of another person, the court would be required to sentence the defendant in the aggravated range of the appropriate Prior Record Level.

Currently, the Division must revoke the license of a person who fails to stop in the event of a crash for a period of one year. The PCS would require the Division to revoke the driver's license of a person convicted of failing to stop in the event of a crash that caused serious bodily injury for a period of four years. That person would be permitted to apply for a new license after three years from revocation. If the failure to stop results in the death of another person, the Division would be required to revoke the drivers license of

Kara McCraw
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578

House 246 PCS

Page 2

that person permanently. That person would be permitted to apply for a new license after seven years from revocation. If a person fails to stop after a crash that results in injury, or fails to provide the person's name, address, driver's license number, and license plate number to the other driver or occupants of any vehicle collided with, the Division would additionally be required to revoke the person's driver's license for a period of one year.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would become effective December 1, 2025, and apply to offenses committed on or after that date.