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## POLICE MONITORS IN MOTOR VEHICLES

House Bill 4750 with committee amendment  
First Analysis (9-27-89)

Sponsor: Rep. Thomas Scott  
Committee: Judiciary

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H.B. 4750 (9-27-89)

### ***THE APPARENT PROBLEM:***

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) allows various classifications of licensed amateur radio operators to transmit and receive signals on federally authorized frequency allocations that are shared with police radio services. Michigan law exempts such operators from a requirement to obtain a permit from the state police before having a police band radio in a vehicle. However, the FCC has revised its classification system, replacing the "conditional" class currently recognized by Michigan law, with the "technician" class. It has been suggested that Michigan law be amended to make it consistent with the FCC licensing structure.

### ***THE CONTENT OF THE BILL:***

The Michigan Penal Code generally requires a person to obtain a permit from the state police to have a police radio monitor in a vehicle. Peace officers and certain licensed amateur radio operators are exempted from the permit requirement. The bill would replace a reference to "conditional" operators with a reference to "technician class" operators.

MCL 750.508

### ***FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:***

According to the House Fiscal Agency, the bill has no fiscal implications. (9-26-89)

### ***ARGUMENTS:***

#### ***For:***

The bill would make a penal code provision regarding amateur radio operators consistent with the classification system employed by the FCC.

#### ***POSITIONS:***

The Department of State Police supports the bill. (9-26-89)

Genesee County Amateur Radio Emergency Services supports the bill. (9-26-89)