As Introduced

134th General Assembly

Regular Session

H. B. No. 642

2021-2022

Representatives Smith, K., Weinstein

Cosponsors: Representatives Russo, Skindell, Lepore-Hagan, Brent, Lightbody, Smith, M.

A BILL

То	amend sections 122.075, 125.831, 125.834,	1
	125.836, 4511.101, 5537.30, and 5735.40 of the	2
	Revised Code to generally require all state	3
	motor vehicles purchased after December 31,	4
	2029, to be powered by electricity exclusively.	5

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 122.075, 125.831, 125.834,	6
125.836, 4511.101, 5537.30, and 5735.40 of the Revised Code be	7
amended to read as follows:	8
Sec. 122.075. (A) As used in this section:	9
(1) "Alternative fuel" has the same meaning as in section	10
125.831 of the Revised Codemeans any of the following fuels used	11
in a motor vehicle:	12
(a) E85 blend fuel;	13
(b) Blended biodiesel;	14
(c) Natural gas;	15
(d) Liquefied petroleum gas;	16

H. B. No. 642
As Introduced

(e) Hydrogen;	17
(f) Compressed air;	18
(g) Any power source, including electricity;	19
(h) Any fuel not described in divisions (A)(1)(a) to (g)	20
of this section that the United States department of energy	21
determines, by final rule, to be substantially not petroleum,	22
and that would yield substantial energy security and	23
environmental benefits.	24
(2) "Biodiesel" means a mono-alkyl ester combustible	25
liquid fuel that is derived from vegetable oils or animal fats,	26
or any combination of those reagents, and that meets American	27
society for testing and materials specification D6751-03a for	28
biodiesel fuel (B100) blend stock distillate fuels.	29
(3) "Diesel fuel" and "gasoline" have the same meanings as	30
in section 5735.01 of the Revised Code.	31
(4) "Ethanol" means fermentation ethyl alcohol derived	32
from agricultural products, including potatoes, cereal, grains,	33
cheese whey, and sugar beets; forest products; or other	34
renewable resources, including residue and waste generated from	35
the production, processing, and marketing of agricultural	36
products, forest products, and other renewable resources that	37
meet all of the specifications in the American society for	38
testing and materials (ASTM) specification D 4806-88 and is	39
denatured as specified in Parts 20 and 21 of Title 27 of the	40
Code of Federal Regulations.	41
(5) "Blended biodiesel" means diesel fuel containing at	42
least twenty per cent biodiesel by volume.	43
(6) "Blended gasoline" means gasoline containing at least	44

H. B. No. 642
As Introduced

eighty-five per cent ethanol by volume.	45
(7) "Incremental cost" means either of the following:	46
(a) The difference in cost between blended gasoline and	47
gasoline containing ten per cent or less ethanol at the time	48
that the blended gasoline is purchased;	49
(b) The difference in cost between blended biodiesel and	50
diesel fuel containing two per cent or less biodiesel at the	51
time that the blended biodiesel is purchased.	52
(8) "E85 blend fuel" means fuel containing eighty-five per	53
cent or more ethanol or containing any other percentage of not	54
less than seventy per cent ethanol if the United States	55
department of energy determines, by rule, that the lower	56
percentage is necessary to provide for the requirements of cold	57
start, safety, or vehicle functions, and that meets the American	58
society for testing and materials specification for E85 blend	59
fuel.	60
(B) For the purpose of improving the air quality in this	61
state, the director of development services shall establish an	62
alternative fuel transportation program under which the director	63
may make grants and loans to businesses, nonprofit	64
organizations, public school systems, or local governments for	65
the purchase and installation of alternative fuel refueling or	66
distribution facilities and terminals, for the purchase and use	67
of alternative fuel, to pay the cost of fleet conversion, and to	68
pay the costs of educational and promotional materials and	69
activities intended for prospective alternative fuel consumers,	70
fuel marketers, and others in order to increase the availability	71
and use of alternative fuel.	72
(C) The director, in consultation with the director of	73

H. B. No. 642	Page 4
As Introduced	

agriculture, shall adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119.	74
of the Revised Code that are necessary for the administration of	75
the alternative fuel transportation program. The rules shall	76
establish at least all of the following:	77
(1) An application form and procedures governing the	78
application process for receiving funds under the program;	79
(2) A procedure for prioritizing the award of grants and	80
loans under the program. The procedures shall give preference to	81
all of the following:	82
(a) Publicly accessible refueling facilities;	83
(b) Entities applying to the program that have secured	84
funding from other sources, including, but not limited to,	85
private or federal incentives;	86
(c) Entities that have presented compelling evidence of	87
demand in the market in which the facilities or terminals will	88
be located;	89
(d) Entities that have committed to utilizing purchased or	90
installed facilities or terminals for the greatest number of	91
years;	92
(e) Entities that will be purchasing or installing	93
facilities or terminals for any type of alternative fuel.	94
(3) A requirement that the maximum incentive for the	95
purchase and installation of an alternative fuel refueling or	96
distribution facility or terminal be eighty per cent of the cost	97
of the facility or terminal, except that at least twenty per	98
cent of the total cost of the facility or terminal shall be	99
incurred by the recipient and not compensated for by any other	100
source;	101

(4) A requirement that the maximum incentive for the	102
purchase of alternative fuel be eighty per cent of the cost of	103
the fuel or, in the case of blended biodiesel or blended	104
gasoline, eighty per cent of the incremental cost of the blended	105
biodiesel or blended gasoline;	106
(5) Any other criteria, procedures, or guidelines that the	107
director determines are necessary to administer the program,	108
including fees, charges, interest rates, and payment schedules.	109
(D) An applicant for a grant or loan under this section	110
that sells motor vehicle fuel at retail shall agree that if the	111
applicant receives funding, the applicant will report to the	112
director the gallon or gallon equivalent amounts of alternative	113
fuel the applicant sells at retail in this state for a period of	114
three years after the project is completed.	115
The director shall enter into a written confidentiality	116
agreement with the applicant regarding the gallon or gallon	117
equivalent amounts sold as described in this division, and upon	118
execution of the agreement this information is not a public	119
record.	120
(E) There is hereby created in the state treasury the	121
alternative fuel transportation fund. The fund shall consist of	122
money transferred to the fund under division (B) of section	123
125.836 of the Revised Code, money that is appropriated to it by	124
the general assembly, money as may be specified by the general	125
assembly from the advanced energy fund created by section	126
4928.61 of the Revised Code, and all money received from the	127
repayment of loans made from the fund or in the event of a	128
default on any such loan. Money in the fund shall be used to	129
make grants and loans under the alternative fuel transportation	130
program and by the director in the administration of that	131

H. B. No. 642 As Introduced	
program.	132
Sec. 125.831. As used in sections 125.831 to 125.834 of	133
the Revised Code:	134
(A) "Alternative Petroleum-based alternative fuel" means	135
any of the following fuels used in a motor vehicle:	136
(1) E85 blend fuel;	137
(2) Blended biodiesel;	138
(3) Natural gas;	139
(4) Liquefied petroleum gas+	140
(5)	141
Hydrogen;	142
(6) Compressed air;	143
(7) Any power source, including electricity;	144
(8) Any fuel not described in divisions (A)(1) to (7) of	145
this section that the United States department of energy	146
determines, by final rule, to be substantially not petroleum,	147
and that would yield substantial energy security and	148
environmental benefits.	149
(B) "Biodiesel" means a mono-alkyl ester combustible	150
liquid fuel that is derived from vegetable oils or animal fats,	151
or any combination of those reagents that meets the American	152
society for testing and materials specification for biodiesel	153
fuel (B100) blend stock distillate fuels and any other standards	154
that the director of administrative services adopts by rule.	155
(C) "Blended biodiesel" means a blend of biodiesel with	156

petroleum based diesel fuel in which the resultant product

157

contains not less than twenty per cent biodiesel that meets the	158
American society for testing and materials specification for	159
blended diesel fuel and any other standards that the director of	160
administrative services adopts by rule.	161
(D) "Diesel fuel" means any liquid fuel that is capable of	162
use in discrete form or as a blend component in the operation of	163
engines of the diesel type.	164
(E) "E85 blend fuel" means fuel containing eighty-five per	165
cent or more ethanol as defined in section 122.075 of the	166
Revised Code or containing any other percentage of not less than	167
seventy per cent ethanol if the United States department of	168
energy determines, by rule, that the lower percentage is	169
necessary to provide for the requirements of cold start, safety,	170
or vehicle functions, and that meets the American society for	171
testing and materials specification for E85 blend fuel and any	172
other standards that the director of administrative services	173
adopts by rule.	174
(F) "Law enforcement officer" means an officer, agent, or	175
employee of a state agency upon whom, by statute, a duty to	176
conserve the peace or to enforce all or certain laws is imposed	177
and the authority to arrest violators is conferred, within the	178
limits of that statutory duty and authority, but does not	179
include such an officer, agent, or employee if that duty and	180
authority is location specific.	181
(G)(1) "Motor vehicle" means any automobile, car minivan,	182
cargo van, passenger van, sport utility vehicle, or pickup truck	183
with a gross vehicle weight of under twelve thousand pounds.	184
(2) "Motor vehicle" does not include, except for the	185

purposes of division (C) of section 125.832 of the Revised Code,

186

any vehicle described in division (G)(1) of this section that is	187
used by a law enforcement officer and law enforcement agency or	188
any vehicle that is so described and that is equipped with	189
specialized equipment that is not normally found in such a	190
vehicle and that is used to carry out a state agency's specific	191
and specialized duties and responsibilities.	192
(H) "Specialized equipment" does not include standard	193
mobile radios with no capabilities other than voice	194
communication, exterior and interior lights, or roof-mounted	195
caution lights.	196
(I) "State agency" means every organized body, office,	197
board, authority, commission, or agency established by the laws	198
of the state for the exercise of any governmental or quasi-	199
governmental function of state government regardless of the	200
funding source for that entity, other than any state institution	201
of higher education, the office of the governor, lieutenant	202
governor, auditor of state, treasurer of state, secretary of	203
state, or attorney general, the general assembly or any	204
legislative agency, the courts or any judicial agency, or any	205
state retirement system or retirement program established by or	206
referenced in the Revised Code.	207
(J) "State institution of higher education" has the same	208
meaning as in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code.	209
Sec. 125.834. (A) The (A) (1) Until January 1, 2025, the	210
department of administrative services shall ensure that both of	211
<pre>the following:</pre>	212
(a) Not less than twenty-five per cent of all new motor	213
vehicles acquired by the state for use by state agencies under	214
section 125.832 of the Revised Code are capable of using	215

alternative fuels. A are powered by electricity exclusively.	216
(b) All new motor vehicles acquired by the state, other	217
than those acquired under division (A)(1)(a) of this section,	218
for use by state agencies under section 125.832 of the Revised	219
Code are capable of using petroleum-based alternative fuels.	220
(2) Beginning January 1, 2025, and until January 1, 2030,	221
the department shall ensure both of the following:	222
(a) Not less than fifty per cent of all new motor vehicles	223
acquired by the state for use by state agencies under section	224
125.832 of the Revised Code are powered by electricity	225
exclusively.	226
(b) All new motor vehicles acquired by the state, other	227
than those acquired under division (A)(2)(a) of this section,	228
for use by state agencies under section 125.832 of the Revised	229
Code are capable of using petroleum-based alternative fuels.	230
(3) Beginning January 1, 2030, the department shall ensure	231
that all new motor vehicles acquired by the state for use by	232
state agencies under section 125.832 of the Revised Code are	233
powered by electricity exclusively.	234
$\underline{\mathtt{A}}$ state agency that is acquiring new motor vehicles under	235
division (G)(1) of section 125.832 of the Revised Code shall	236
report annually, in a manner prescribed by the director of	237
administrative services, the number of new motor vehicles	238
acquired by the state agency and the number of those motor	239
vehicles that are capable of using alternative fuelpowered by	240
electricity exclusively and, until January 1, 2030, the number	241
of those vehicles that use petroleum-based alternative fuel.	242
(B) The (B) (1) Until January 1, 2030, the department shall	243
not purchase or lease, or authorize the purchase or lease by a	244

state agency of, any motor vehicles that are incapable of using	245
do not use petroleum-based alternative fuels or are not powered	246
by electricity exclusively, unless one or more both of the	247
following apply:	248
TOTIOWING APPLY.	210
$\frac{(1)-(a)}{(a)}$ The department or state agency is unable to	249
acquire or operate motor vehicles within the cost limitations	250
described in rules adopted under division $\frac{(D)-(C)}{(C)}$ of this	251
section.	252
(2) The use of alternative fuels would not meet the energy	253
conservation and exhaust emissions criteria described in rules-	254
adopted under division (D) of this section.	255
(3) (b) An emergency exists or exigent circumstances	256
exist, as determined by the department of administrative	257
services.	258
(2) Beginning January 1, 2030, the department shall not	259
purchase or lease, or authorize the purchase or lease by a state	260
agency of, any motor vehicles that are not powered by	261
electricity exclusively, unless one or both of the following	262
<pre>apply:</pre>	263
(a) The department or state agency is unable to acquire or	264
operate motor vehicles within the cost limitations described in	265
rules adopted under division (C) of this section.	266
(b) An emergency exists or exigent circumstances exist, as	267
determined by the department of administrative services.	268
(C) All motor vehicles owned or leased by the state that	269
are capable of using an alternative fuel shall use an-	270
alternative fuel if the fuel is reasonably available at a	271
reasonable price. The director of administrative services, under	272
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, shall adopt rules to implement	273

the fuel use requirement of this division, and the directors and	274
heads of all state departments and agencies shall issue a-	275
directive to all state employees who use state motor vehicles	276
informing them of the fuel use requirement. The directive shall-	277
instruct state employees to purchase alternative fuels at retail-	278
fuel facilities whenever possible.	279
As used in this division, "motor vehicle" has the same-	280
meaning as in section 125.831 of the Revised Code and also-	281
includes all on road and off road vehicles powered by diesel	282
fuel, regardless of gross vehicle weight.	283
(D)—The director of administrative services shall adopt	284
and may amend, under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, rules	285
that include both of the following:	286
(1) Requirements requirements for state agencies in the	287
procurement of <pre>petroleum-based</pre> alternative fuels and motor	288
vehicles capable of using alternative such fuels or that are	289
powered by electricity exclusively, and cost limitations for the	290
acquisition and operation of such vehicles $ au$	291
(2) Energy conservation and exhaust emissions criteria for	292
motor vehicles capable of using alternative fuels.	293
Sec. 125.836. (A) As used in this section:	294
(1) "Biodiesel," "blended biodiesel," and "diesel fuel"	295
have the same meanings as in section $\frac{125.831}{122.075}$ of the	296
Revised Code.	297
(2) "Incremental cost" means the difference in cost	298
between blended biodiesel and conventional petroleum-based	299
diesel fuel at the time the blended biodiesel is purchased.	300
(B) There is hereby created in the state treasury the	301

H. B. No. 642
As Introduced

"blodiesel revolving fund," to which shall be credited moneys	302
appropriated to the fund by the general assembly and any other	303
moneys obtained or accepted by the development services agency	304
for crediting to the fund. Moneys credited to the fund shall be	305
used to pay for the incremental cost of biodiesel for use in	306
vehicles owned or leased by the state that use diesel fuel. The	307
director of development services may direct the director of	308
budget and management to transfer available moneys in the	309
biodiesel revolving fund to the alternative fuel transportation	310
fund created in section 122.075 of the Revised Code to be used	311
by the development services agency for the purposes specified in	312
that section.	313
Sec. 4511.101. (A) The director of transportation, in	314
accordance with 23 U.S.C.A. 109(d), 131(f), and 315, as amended,	315
and by rule adopted pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised	316
Code, shall establish a program for the placement of business	317
logos for identification purposes on state directional signs	318
within the rights-of-way of divided, multi-lane, limited access	319
highways in both rural and urban areas.	320
(B)(1) The director, by rule adopted pursuant to Chapter	321
119. of the Revised Code, shall establish, and may revise, a fee	322
for participation in the business logo sign program. All direct	323
and indirect costs of the business logo sign program established	324
pursuant to this section shall be fully paid by the businesses	325
applying for participation in the program. The direct and	326
indirect costs of the program shall include, but not be limited	327
to, the cost of capital, directional signs, blanks, posts,	328
logos, installation, repair, engineering, design, insurance,	329

330

331

removal, replacement, and administration.

(2) Money generated from participating businesses in

excess of the direct and indirect costs and any reasonable	332
profit earned by a person awarded a contract under division (C)	333
of this section shall be remitted to the department.	334
(3) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit	335
the director from establishing such a program. If the department	336
operates such a program and does not contract with a private	337
person to operate it, all money collected from participating	338
businesses shall be deposited and credited as prescribed in	339
division (B)(2) of this section.	340
(C) The director, in accordance with rules adopted	341
pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, may contract with	342
any private person to operate, maintain, or market the business	343
logo sign program. The contract may allow for a reasonable	344
profit to be earned by the successful applicant. In awarding the	345
contract, the director shall consider the skill, expertise,	346
prior experience, and other qualifications of each applicant.	347
(D) As used in this section, "urban area" means an area	348
having a population of fifty thousand or more according to the	349
most recent federal census and designated as such on urban maps	350
prepared by the department.	351
(E) In implementing this section, neither the department	352
nor the director shall do either of the following:	353
(1) Limit the right of any person to erect, maintain,	354
repair, remove, or utilize any off-premises or on-premises	355
advertising device;	356
(2) Make participation in the business logo sign program	357
conditional upon a business agreeing to limit, discontinue,	358
withdraw, modify, alter, or change any advertising or sign.	359
(F) The program shall permit the business logo signs of a	360

seller of motor vehicle fuel to include on the seller's signs a	361
marking or symbol indicating that the seller sells one or more	362
types of alternative fuel so long as the seller in fact sells	363
that fuel.	364
As used in this division, "alternative fuel" has the same	365
meaning as in section $\frac{125.831}{122.075}$ of the Revised Code.	366
Sec. 5537.30. (A) Not later than December 31, 2009, the	367
Ohio turnpike and infrastructure commission shall establish a	368
program for the placement of business logos for identification	369
purposes on directional signs within the turnpike right-of-way.	370
(B)(1) The commission shall establish, and may revise at	371
any time, a fee for participation in the business logo sign	372
program. All direct and indirect costs of the business logo sign	373
program established pursuant to this section shall be fully paid	374
by the businesses applying for participation in the program. The	375
direct and indirect costs of the program shall include, but not	376
be limited to, the cost of capital, directional signs, blanks,	377
posts, logos, installation, repair, engineering, design,	378
insurance, removal, replacement, and administration.	379
(2) Money generated from participating businesses in	380
excess of the direct and indirect costs and any reasonable	381
profit earned by a person awarded a contract to operate,	382
maintain, or market the business logo sign program shall be	383
remitted to the commission.	384
(3) If the commission operates such a program and does not	385
contract with a private person to operate it, all money	386
collected from participating businesses shall be retained by the	387
commission.	388
(C) The program shall permit the business logo signs of a	389

H. B. No. 642 Page 15 As Introduced

seller of motor vehicle fuel to include on the seller's signs a	390
marking or symbol indicating that the seller sells one or more	391
types of alternative fuel so long as the seller in fact sells	392
that fuel. As used in this division, "alternative fuel" has the	393
same meaning as in section $\frac{125.831}{122.075}$ of the Revised Code.	394
Sec. 5735.40. (A) As used in this section:	395
(1) "Alternative fuel" has the same meaning as in section	396
125.831 122.075 of the Revised Code.	397
(2) "Political subdivision" means a county, township,	398
municipal corporation, school district, or other body corporate	399
and politic responsible for governmental activities in a	400
geographic area smaller than that of the state.	401
(B) Except as provided in division (B)(6) of section	402
5739.02 of the Revised Code when levying the tax imposed by that	403
section in conjunction with sections 5739.021, 5739.023,	404
5739.026, 5741.021, 5741.022, and 5741.023 of the Revised Code,	405
or as provided in section 5739.101 of the Revised Code, no	406
political subdivision shall levy or collect any excise, license,	407
privilege, or occupational tax on alternative fuel or on the	408
buying, selling, handling, or consuming of alternative fuel.	409
Section 2. That existing sections 122.075, 125.831,	410
125.834, 125.836, 4511.101, 5537.30, and 5735.40 of the Revised	411
Code are hereby repealed.	412