

**As Introduced**

**134th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2021-2022**

**S. B. No. 277**

**Senator Huffman, S.**

**Cosponsors: Senators Romanchuk, O'Brien, Blessing, Reineke, Johnson, Rulli, Lang, Peterson, Roegner, Cirino, Schaffer, Manning, Antani, Gavarone, Brenner**

---

**A BILL**

To amend sections 4503.10 and 5735.05 of the 1  
Revised Code to temporarily reduce motor fuel 2  
excise tax rates and suspend collection of the 3  
additional motor vehicle registration taxes on 4  
electric and hybrid vehicles, both for five 5  
years, and to amend the version of section 6  
4503.10 of the Revised Code that is scheduled to 7  
take effect on October 1, 2022, to continue the 8  
changes to that section on and after that date. 9

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

**Section 1.** That sections 4503.10 and 5735.05 of the 10  
Revised Code be amended to read as follows: 11

**Sec. 4503.10.** (A) The owner of every snowmobile, off- 12  
highway motorcycle, and all-purpose vehicle required to be 13  
registered under section 4519.02 of the Revised Code shall file 14  
an application for registration under section 4519.03 of the 15  
Revised Code. The owner of a motor vehicle, other than a 16  
snowmobile, off-highway motorcycle, or all-purpose vehicle, that 17  
is not designed and constructed by the manufacturer for 18

operation on a street or highway may not register it under this 19  
chapter except upon certification of inspection pursuant to 20  
section 4513.02 of the Revised Code by the sheriff, or the chief 21  
of police of the municipal corporation or township, with 22  
jurisdiction over the political subdivision in which the owner 23  
of the motor vehicle resides. Except as provided in section 24  
4503.103 of the Revised Code, every owner of every other motor 25  
vehicle not previously described in this section and every 26  
person mentioned as owner in the last certificate of title of a 27  
motor vehicle that is operated or driven upon the public roads 28  
or highways shall cause to be filed each year, by mail or 29  
otherwise, in the office of the registrar of motor vehicles or a 30  
deputy registrar, a written or electronic application or a 31  
preprinted registration renewal notice issued under section 32  
4503.102 of the Revised Code, the form of which shall be 33  
prescribed by the registrar, for registration for the following 34  
registration year, which shall begin on the first day of January 35  
of every calendar year and end on the thirty-first day of 36  
December in the same year. Applications for registration and 37  
registration renewal notices shall be filed at the times 38  
established by the registrar pursuant to section 4503.101 of the 39  
Revised Code. A motor vehicle owner also may elect to apply for 40  
or renew a motor vehicle registration by electronic means using 41  
electronic signature in accordance with rules adopted by the 42  
registrar. Except as provided in division (J) of this section, 43  
applications for registration shall be made on blanks furnished 44  
by the registrar for that purpose, containing the following 45  
information: 46

(1) A brief description of the motor vehicle to be 47  
registered, including the year, make, model, and vehicle 48  
identification number, and, in the case of commercial cars, the 49

gross weight of the vehicle fully equipped computed in the 50  
manner prescribed in section 4503.08 of the Revised Code; 51

(2) The name and residence address of the owner, and the 52  
township and municipal corporation in which the owner resides; 53

(3) The district of registration, which shall be 54  
determined as follows: 55

(a) In case the motor vehicle to be registered is used for 56  
hire or principally in connection with any established business 57  
or branch business, conducted at a particular place, the 58  
district of registration is the municipal corporation in which 59  
that place is located or, if not located in any municipal 60  
corporation, the county and township in which that place is 61  
located. 62

(b) In case the vehicle is not so used, the district of 63  
registration is the municipal corporation or county in which the 64  
owner resides at the time of making the application. 65

(4) Whether the motor vehicle is a new or used motor 66  
vehicle; 67

(5) The date of purchase of the motor vehicle; 68

(6) Whether the fees required to be paid for the 69  
registration or transfer of the motor vehicle, during the 70  
preceding registration year and during the preceding period of 71  
the current registration year, have been paid. Each application 72  
for registration shall be signed by the owner, either manually 73  
or by electronic signature, or pursuant to obtaining a limited 74  
power of attorney authorized by the registrar for registration, 75  
or other document authorizing such signature. If the owner 76  
elects to apply for or renew the motor vehicle registration with 77  
the registrar by electronic means, the owner's manual signature 78

is not required. 79

(7) The owner's social security number, driver's license 80  
number, or state identification number, or, where a motor 81  
vehicle to be registered is used for hire or principally in 82  
connection with any established business, the owner's federal 83  
taxpayer identification number. The bureau of motor vehicles 84  
shall retain in its records all social security numbers provided 85  
under this section, but the bureau shall not place social 86  
security numbers on motor vehicle certificates of registration. 87

(B) (1) When an applicant first registers a motor vehicle 88  
in the applicant's name, the applicant shall provide proof of 89  
ownership of that motor vehicle. Proof of ownership may include 90  
any of the following: 91

(a) The applicant may present for inspection a physical 92  
certificate of title or memorandum certificate showing title to 93  
the motor vehicle to be registered in the name of the applicant. 94

(b) The applicant may present for inspection an electronic 95  
certificate of title for the applicant's motor vehicle in a 96  
manner prescribed by rules adopted by the registrar. 97

(c) The registrar or deputy registrar may electronically 98  
confirm the applicant's ownership of the motor vehicle. 99

An applicant is not required to present a certificate of 100  
title to an electronic motor vehicle dealer acting as a limited 101  
authority deputy registrar in accordance with rules adopted by 102  
the registrar. 103

(2) When a motor vehicle inspection and maintenance 104  
program is in effect under section 3704.14 of the Revised Code 105  
and rules adopted under it, each application for registration 106  
for a vehicle required to be inspected under that section and 107

those rules shall be accompanied by an inspection certificate 108  
for the motor vehicle issued in accordance with that section. 109

(3) An application for registration shall be refused if 110  
any of the following applies: 111

(a) The application is not in proper form. 112

(b) The application is prohibited from being accepted by 113  
division (D) of section 2935.27, division (A) of section 114  
2937.221, division (A) of section 4503.13, division (B) of 115  
section 4510.22, or division (B) (1) of section 4521.10 of the 116  
Revised Code. 117

(c) Proof of ownership is required but is not presented or 118  
confirmed in accordance with division (B) (1) of this section. 119

(d) All registration and transfer fees for the motor 120  
vehicle, for the preceding year or the preceding period of the 121  
current registration year, have not been paid. 122

(e) The owner or lessee does not have an inspection 123  
certificate for the motor vehicle as provided in section 3704.14 124  
of the Revised Code, and rules adopted under it, if that section 125  
is applicable. 126

(4) This section does not require the payment of license 127  
or registration taxes on a motor vehicle for any preceding year, 128  
or for any preceding period of a year, if the motor vehicle was 129  
not taxable for that preceding year or period under sections 130  
4503.02, 4503.04, 4503.11, 4503.12, and 4503.16 or Chapter 4504. 131  
of the Revised Code. 132

(5) When a certificate of registration is issued upon the 133  
first registration of a motor vehicle by or on behalf of the 134  
owner, the official issuing the certificate shall indicate the 135

issuance with a stamp on the certificate of title or memorandum 136  
certificate or, in the case of an electronic certificate of 137  
title or electronic verification of ownership, an electronic 138  
stamp or other notation as specified in rules adopted by the 139  
registrar, and with a stamp on the inspection certificate for 140  
the motor vehicle, if any. 141

(6) The official also shall indicate, by a stamp or by 142  
other means the registrar prescribes, on the registration 143  
certificate issued upon the first registration of a motor 144  
vehicle by or on behalf of the owner the odometer reading of the 145  
motor vehicle as shown in the odometer statement included in or 146  
attached to the certificate of title. Upon each subsequent 147  
registration of the motor vehicle by or on behalf of the same 148  
owner, the official also shall so indicate the odometer reading 149  
of the motor vehicle as shown on the immediately preceding 150  
certificate of registration. 151

(7) The registrar shall include in the permanent 152  
registration record of any vehicle required to be inspected 153  
under section 3704.14 of the Revised Code the inspection 154  
certificate number from the inspection certificate that is 155  
presented at the time of registration of the vehicle as required 156  
under this division. 157

(C) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) (1) of 158  
this section, the registrar and each deputy registrar shall 159  
collect an additional fee of eleven dollars for each application 160  
for registration and registration renewal received. For vehicles 161  
specified in divisions (A) (1) to (21) of section 4503.042 of the 162  
Revised Code, the registrar and deputy registrar shall collect 163  
an additional fee of thirty dollars for each application for 164  
registration and registration renewal received. No additional 165

fee shall be charged for vehicles registered under section 166  
4503.65 of the Revised Code. The additional fee is for the 167  
purpose of defraying the department of public safety's costs 168  
associated with the administration and enforcement of the motor 169  
vehicle and traffic laws of Ohio. Each deputy registrar shall 170  
transmit the fees collected under divisions (C)(1), (3), and (4) 171  
of this section in the time and manner provided in this section. 172  
The registrar shall deposit all moneys received under division 173  
(C)(1) of this section into the public safety - highway purposes 174  
fund established in section 4501.06 of the Revised Code. 175

(2) In addition, a charge of twenty-five cents shall be 176  
made for each reflectorized safety license plate issued, and a 177  
single charge of twenty-five cents shall be made for each county 178  
identification sticker or each set of county identification 179  
stickers issued, as the case may be, to cover the cost of 180  
producing the license plates and stickers, including material, 181  
manufacturing, and administrative costs. Those fees shall be in 182  
addition to the license tax. If the total cost of producing the 183  
plates is less than twenty-five cents per plate, or if the total 184  
cost of producing the stickers is less than twenty-five cents 185  
per sticker or per set issued, any excess moneys accruing from 186  
the fees shall be distributed in the same manner as provided by 187  
section 4501.04 of the Revised Code for the distribution of 188  
license tax moneys. If the total cost of producing the plates 189  
exceeds twenty-five cents per plate, or if the total cost of 190  
producing the stickers exceeds twenty-five cents per sticker or 191  
per set issued, the difference shall be paid from the license 192  
tax moneys collected pursuant to section 4503.02 of the Revised 193  
Code. 194

(3) The registrar and each deputy registrar shall collect 195  
an additional fee of two hundred dollars for each application 196

for registration or registration renewal received for any plug- 197  
in hybrid electric motor vehicle or battery electric motor 198  
vehicle. The fee shall be prorated based on the number of months 199  
for which the plug-in hybrid electric motor vehicle or battery 200  
electric motor vehicle is registered. The registrar shall 201  
transmit all money arising from the fee imposed by division (C) 202  
(3) of this section to the treasurer of state for distribution 203  
in accordance with division (E) of section 5735.051 of the 204  
Revised Code, subject to division (D) of section 5735.05 of the 205  
Revised Code. 206

(4) The registrar and each deputy registrar shall collect 207  
an additional fee of one hundred dollars for each application 208  
for registration or registration renewal received for any hybrid 209  
motor vehicle. The fee shall be prorated based on the number of 210  
months for which the hybrid motor vehicle is registered. The 211  
registrar shall transmit all money arising from the fee imposed 212  
by division (C) (4) of this section to the treasurer of state for 213  
distribution in accordance with division (E) of section 5735.051 214  
of the Revised Code, subject to division (D) of section 5735.05 215  
of the Revised Code. 216

(5) The fees established under divisions (C) (3) and (4) of 217  
this section shall not be collected beginning January 1, 2023, 218  
through December 31, 2027. 219

(D) Each deputy registrar shall be allowed a fee equal to 220  
the amount established under section 4503.038 of the Revised 221  
Code for each application for registration and registration 222  
renewal notice the deputy registrar receives, which shall be for 223  
the purpose of compensating the deputy registrar for the deputy 224  
registrar's services, and such office and rental expenses, as 225  
may be necessary for the proper discharge of the deputy 226



registrar's duties in the receiving of applications and renewal notices and the issuing of registrations.	227 228
(E) Upon the certification of the registrar, the county sheriff or local police officials shall recover license plates erroneously or fraudulently issued.	229 230 231
(F) Each deputy registrar, upon receipt of any application for registration or registration renewal notice, together with the license fee and any local motor vehicle license tax levied pursuant to Chapter 4504. of the Revised Code, shall transmit that fee and tax, if any, in the manner provided in this section, together with the original and duplicate copy of the application, to the registrar. The registrar, subject to the approval of the director of public safety, may deposit the funds collected by those deputies in a local bank or depository to the credit of the "state of Ohio, bureau of motor vehicles." Where a local bank or depository has been designated by the registrar, each deputy registrar shall deposit all moneys collected by the deputy registrar into that bank or depository not more than one business day after their collection and shall make reports to the registrar of the amounts so deposited, together with any other information, some of which may be prescribed by the treasurer of state, as the registrar may require and as prescribed by the registrar by rule. The registrar, within three days after receipt of notification of the deposit of funds by a deputy registrar in a local bank or depository, shall draw on that account in favor of the treasurer of state. The registrar, subject to the approval of the director and the treasurer of state, may make reasonable rules necessary for the prompt transmittal of fees and for safeguarding the interests of the state and of counties, townships, municipal corporations, and transportation improvement districts levying local motor vehicle	232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257

license taxes. The registrar may pay service charges usually 258  
collected by banks and depositories for such service. If deputy 259  
registrars are located in communities where banking facilities 260  
are not available, they shall transmit the fees forthwith, by 261  
money order or otherwise, as the registrar, by rule approved by 262  
the director and the treasurer of state, may prescribe. The 263  
registrar may pay the usual and customary fees for such service. 264

(G) This section does not prevent any person from making 265  
an application for a motor vehicle license directly to the 266  
registrar by mail, by electronic means, or in person at any of 267  
the registrar's offices, upon payment of a service fee equal to 268  
the amount established under section 4503.038 of the Revised 269  
Code for each application. 270

(H) No person shall make a false statement as to the 271  
district of registration in an application required by division 272  
(A) of this section. Violation of this division is falsification 273  
under section 2921.13 of the Revised Code and punishable as 274  
specified in that section. 275

(I) (1) Where applicable, the requirements of division (B) 276  
of this section relating to the presentation of an inspection 277  
certificate issued under section 3704.14 of the Revised Code and 278  
rules adopted under it for a motor vehicle, the refusal of a 279  
license for failure to present an inspection certificate, and 280  
the stamping of the inspection certificate by the official 281  
issuing the certificate of registration apply to the 282  
registration of and issuance of license plates for a motor 283  
vehicle under sections 4503.102, 4503.12, 4503.14, 4503.15, 284  
4503.16, 4503.171, 4503.172, 4503.19, 4503.40, 4503.41, 4503.42, 285  
4503.43, 4503.44, 4503.46, 4503.47, and 4503.51 of the Revised 286  
Code. 287

(2) (a) The registrar shall adopt rules ensuring that each 288  
owner registering a motor vehicle in a county where a motor 289  
vehicle inspection and maintenance program is in effect under 290  
section 3704.14 of the Revised Code and rules adopted under it 291  
receives information about the requirements established in that 292  
section and those rules and about the need in those counties to 293  
present an inspection certificate with an application for 294  
registration or preregistration. 295

(b) Upon request, the registrar shall provide the director 296  
of environmental protection, or any person that has been awarded 297  
a contract under section 3704.14 of the Revised Code, an on-line 298  
computer data link to registration information for all passenger 299  
cars, noncommercial motor vehicles, and commercial cars that are 300  
subject to that section. The registrar also shall provide to the 301  
director of environmental protection a magnetic data tape 302  
containing registration information regarding passenger cars, 303  
noncommercial motor vehicles, and commercial cars for which a 304  
multi-year registration is in effect under section 4503.103 of 305  
the Revised Code or rules adopted under it, including, without 306  
limitation, the date of issuance of the multi-year registration, 307  
the registration deadline established under rules adopted under 308  
section 4503.101 of the Revised Code that was applicable in the 309  
year in which the multi-year registration was issued, and the 310  
registration deadline for renewal of the multi-year 311  
registration. 312

(J) Subject to division (K) of this section, application 313  
for registration under the international registration plan, as 314  
set forth in sections 4503.60 to 4503.66 of the Revised Code, 315  
shall be made to the registrar on forms furnished by the 316  
registrar. In accordance with international registration plan 317  
guidelines and pursuant to rules adopted by the registrar, the 318

forms shall include the following: 319

(1) A uniform mileage schedule; 320

(2) The gross vehicle weight of the vehicle or combined 321  
gross vehicle weight of the combination vehicle as declared by 322  
the registrant; 323

(3) Any other information the registrar requires by rule. 324

(K) The registrar shall determine the feasibility of 325  
implementing an electronic commercial fleet licensing and 326  
management program that will enable the owners of commercial 327  
tractors, commercial trailers, and commercial semitrailers to 328  
conduct electronic transactions by July 1, 2010, or sooner. If 329  
the registrar determines that implementing such a program is 330  
feasible, the registrar shall adopt new rules under this 331  
division or amend existing rules adopted under this division as 332  
necessary in order to respond to advances in technology. 333

If international registration plan guidelines and 334  
provisions allow member jurisdictions to permit applications for 335  
registrations under the international registration plan to be 336  
made via the internet, the rules the registrar adopts under this 337  
division shall permit such action. 338

**Sec. 5735.05.** (A) There is hereby levied a motor fuel 339  
excise tax on each motor fuel dealer, measured by gross gallons, 340  
upon the receipt of motor fuel within this state. 341

The tax is levied at the rates prescribed by divisions (E) 342  
~~and (F) to (G)~~ of this section. 343

The revenue derived from twenty-eight cents per gallon of 344  
such tax rates shall be distributed under divisions (A), (B), 345  
(C), and (D) of section 5735.051 of the Revised Code to fund the 346

following purposes in the following amounts: 347

(1) Seventeen twenty-eighths of the revenue shall be used 348  
solely to provide revenue for maintaining the state highway 349  
system; to widen existing surfaces on such highways; to 350  
resurface such highways; to pay that portion of the construction 351  
cost of a highway project which a county, township, or municipal 352  
corporation normally would be required to pay, but which the 353  
director of transportation, pursuant to division (B) of section 354  
5531.08 of the Revised Code, determines instead will be paid 355  
from moneys in the highway operating fund; to enable the 356  
counties of the state properly to plan, maintain, and repair 357  
their roads and to pay principal, interest, and charges on bonds 358  
and other obligations issued pursuant to Chapter 133. of the 359  
Revised Code or incurred pursuant to section 5531.09 of the 360  
Revised Code for highway improvements; to enable the municipal 361  
corporations to plan, construct, reconstruct, repave, widen, 362  
maintain, repair, clear, and clean public highways, roads, and 363  
streets, and to pay the principal, interest, and charges on 364  
bonds and other obligations issued pursuant to Chapter 133. of 365  
the Revised Code or incurred pursuant to section 5531.09 of the 366  
Revised Code for highway improvements; to enable the Ohio 367  
turnpike and infrastructure commission to construct, 368  
reconstruct, maintain, and repair turnpike projects; to maintain 369  
and repair bridges and viaducts; to purchase, erect, and 370  
maintain street and traffic signs and markers; to purchase, 371  
erect, and maintain traffic lights and signals; to pay the costs 372  
apportioned to the public under sections 4907.47 and 4907.471 of 373  
the Revised Code and to supplement revenue already available for 374  
such purposes; to pay the costs incurred by the public utilities 375  
commission in administering sections 4907.47 to 4907.476 of the 376  
Revised Code; to distribute equitably among those persons using 377

the privilege of driving motor vehicles upon such highways and 378  
streets the cost of maintaining and repairing them; to pay the 379  
interest, principal, and charges on highway capital improvements 380  
bonds and other obligations issued pursuant to Section 2m of 381  
Article VIII, Ohio Constitution, and section 151.06 of the 382  
Revised Code; to pay the interest, principal, and charges on 383  
highway obligations issued pursuant to Section 2i of Article 384  
VIII, Ohio Constitution, and sections 5528.30 and 5528.31 of the 385  
Revised Code; to pay the interest, principal, and charges on 386  
major new state infrastructure bonds and other obligations of 387  
the state issued pursuant to Section 13 of Article VIII, Ohio 388  
Constitution, and section 5531.10 of the Revised Code; to 389  
provide revenue for the purposes of sections 1547.71 to 1547.77 390  
of the Revised Code; and to pay the expenses of the department 391  
of taxation incident to the administration of the motor fuel 392  
laws. 393

(2) Two twenty-eighths of the revenue shall be used solely 394  
to pay the expenses of administering and enforcing the state law 395  
relating to the registration and operation of motor vehicles; to 396  
supply the state's share of the cost of planning, constructing, 397  
widening, and reconstructing the state highways; to supply the 398  
state's share of the cost of eliminating railway grade crossings 399  
upon such highways; to pay that portion of the construction cost 400  
of a highway project that a county, township, or municipal 401  
corporation normally would be required to pay, but that the 402  
director of transportation, pursuant to division (B) of section 403  
5531.08 of the Revised Code, determines instead will be paid 404  
from moneys in the highway operating fund; to enable counties 405  
and townships to properly plan, construct, widen, reconstruct, 406  
and maintain their public highways, roads, and streets; to 407  
enable counties to pay principal, interest, and charges on bonds 408

and other obligations issued pursuant to Chapter 133. of the 409  
Revised Code or incurred pursuant to section 5531.09 of the 410  
Revised Code for highway improvements; to enable municipal 411  
corporations to plan, construct, reconstruct, repave, widen, 412  
maintain, repair, clear, and clean public highways, roads, and 413  
streets; to enable municipal corporations to pay the principal, 414  
interest, and charges on bonds and other obligations issued 415  
pursuant to Chapter 133. of the Revised Code or incurred 416  
pursuant to section 5531.09 of the Revised Code for highway 417  
improvements; to maintain and repair bridges and viaducts; to 418  
purchase, erect, and maintain street and traffic signs and 419  
markers; to purchase, erect, and maintain traffic lights and 420  
signals; to pay the costs apportioned to the public under 421  
section 4907.47 of the Revised Code; to provide revenue for the 422  
purposes of sections 1547.71 to 1547.77 of the Revised Code and 423  
to supplement revenue already available for such purposes; to 424  
pay the expenses of the department of taxation incident to the 425  
administration of the motor fuel laws and to supplement revenue 426  
already available for such purposes; to pay the interest, 427  
principal, and charges on bonds and other obligations issued 428  
pursuant to Section 2g of Article VIII, Ohio Constitution, and 429  
sections 5528.10 and 5528.11 of the Revised Code; and to pay the 430  
interest, principal, and charges on highway obligations issued 431  
pursuant to Section 2i of Article VIII, Ohio Constitution, and 432  
sections 5528.30 and 5528.31 of the Revised Code. 433

(3) Eight twenty-eighths of the revenue shall be used 434  
solely to supply the state's share of the cost of constructing, 435  
widening, maintaining, and reconstructing the state highways; to 436  
maintain and repair bridges and viaducts; to purchase, erect, 437  
and maintain street and traffic signs and markers; to purchase, 438  
erect, and maintain traffic lights and signals; to pay the 439

expense of administering and enforcing the state law relative to 440  
the registration and operation of motor vehicles; to make road 441  
improvements associated with retaining or attracting business 442  
for this state; to pay that portion of the construction cost of 443  
a highway project that a county, township, or municipal 444  
corporation normally would be required to pay, but that the 445  
director of transportation, pursuant to division (B) of section 446  
5531.08 of the Revised Code, determines instead will be paid 447  
from moneys in the highway operating fund; to provide revenue 448  
for the purposes of sections 1547.71 to 1547.77 of the Revised 449  
Code and to supplement revenue already available for such 450  
purposes; to pay the expenses of the department of taxation 451  
incident to the administration of the motor fuel laws and to 452  
supplement revenue already available for such purposes; to pay 453  
the interest, principal, and charges on highway obligations 454  
issued pursuant to Section 2i of Article VIII, Ohio 455  
Constitution, and sections 5528.30 and 5528.31 of the Revised 456  
Code; to enable counties and townships to properly plan, 457  
construct, widen, reconstruct, and maintain their public 458  
highways, roads, and streets; to enable counties to pay 459  
principal, interest, and charges on bonds and other obligations 460  
issued pursuant to Chapter 133. of the Revised Code or incurred 461  
pursuant to section 5531.09 of the Revised Code for highway 462  
improvements; to enable municipal corporations to plan, 463  
construct, reconstruct, repave, widen, maintain, repair, clear, 464  
and clean public highways, roads, and streets; to enable 465  
municipal corporations to pay the principal, interest, and 466  
charges on bonds and other obligations issued pursuant to 467  
Chapter 133. of the Revised Code or incurred pursuant to section 468  
5531.09 of the Revised Code for highway improvements; and to pay 469  
the costs apportioned to the public under section 4907.47 of the 470  
Revised Code. 471



(4) One twenty-eighth of the revenue shall be used solely 472  
to pay the state's share of the cost of constructing and 473  
reconstructing highways and eliminating railway grade crossings 474  
on the major thoroughfares of the state highway system and urban 475  
extensions thereof; to pay that portion of the construction cost 476  
of a highway project that a county, township, or municipal 477  
corporation normally would be required to pay, but that the 478  
director of transportation, pursuant to division (B) of section 479  
5531.08 of the Revised Code, determines instead will be paid 480  
from moneys in the highway operating fund; to pay the interest, 481  
principal, and charges on bonds and other obligations issued 482  
pursuant to Section 2g of Article VIII, Ohio Constitution, and 483  
sections 5528.10 and 5528.11 of the Revised Code; to pay the 484  
interest, principal, and charges on highway obligations issued 485  
pursuant to Section 2i of Article VIII, Ohio Constitution, and 486  
sections 5528.30 and 5528.31 of the Revised Code; to provide 487  
revenues for the purposes of sections 1547.71 to 1547.77 of the 488  
Revised Code; and to pay the expenses of the department of 489  
taxation incident to the administration of the motor fuel laws. 490

(B) The revenue derived from any portion of the tax rates 491  
that exceeds twenty-eight cents per gallon of motor fuel shall 492  
be distributed under division (E) of section 5735.051 of the 493  
Revised Code to fund the purposes described in divisions (A) and 494  
(D) of this section, as provided in divisions (A) and (B) of 495  
section 5735.27 of the Revised Code. 496

(C) The tax imposed by this section does not apply to the 497  
following transactions: 498

(1) The sale of dyed diesel fuel by a licensed motor fuel 499  
dealer from a location other than a retail service station 500  
provided the licensed motor fuel dealer places on the face of 501

the delivery document or invoice, or both if both are used, a 502  
conspicuous notice stating that the fuel is dyed and is not for 503  
taxable use, and that taxable use of that fuel is subject to a 504  
penalty. The tax commissioner, by rule, may provide that any 505  
notice conforming to rules or regulations issued by the United 506  
States department of the treasury or the Internal Revenue 507  
Service is sufficient notice for the purposes of division (C) (1) 508  
of this section. 509

(2) The sale of K-1 kerosene to a retail service station, 510  
except when placed directly in the fuel supply tank of a motor 511  
vehicle. Such sale shall be rebuttably presumed to not be 512  
distributed or sold for use or used to generate power for the 513  
operation of motor vehicles upon the public highways or upon the 514  
waters within the boundaries of this state. 515

(3) The sale of motor fuel by a licensed motor fuel dealer 516  
to another licensed motor fuel dealer; 517

(4) The exportation of motor fuel by a licensed motor fuel 518  
dealer from this state to any other state or foreign country; 519

(5) The sale of motor fuel to the United States government 520  
or any of its agencies, except such tax as is permitted by it, 521  
where such sale is evidenced by an exemption certificate, in a 522  
form approved by the tax commissioner, executed by the United 523  
States government or an agency thereof certifying that the motor 524  
fuel therein identified has been purchased for the exclusive use 525  
of the United States government or its agency; 526

(6) The sale of motor fuel that is in the process of 527  
transportation in foreign or interstate commerce, except insofar 528  
as it may be taxable under the Constitution and statutes of the 529  
United States, and except as may be agreed upon in writing by 530

the dealer and the commissioner;	531
(7) The sale of motor fuel when sold exclusively for use	532
in the operation of aircraft, where such sale is evidenced by an	533
exemption certificate prescribed by the commissioner and	534
executed by the purchaser certifying that the motor fuel	535
purchased has been purchased for exclusive use in the operation	536
of aircraft;	537
(8) The sale for exportation of motor fuel by a licensed	538
motor fuel dealer to a licensed exporter described in division	539
(DD) (1) of section 5735.01 of the Revised Code;	540
(9) The sale for exportation of motor fuel by a licensed	541
motor fuel dealer to a licensed exporter described in division	542
(DD) (2) of section 5735.01 of the Revised Code, provided that	543
the destination state motor fuel tax has been paid or will be	544
accrued and paid by the licensed motor fuel dealer.	545
(10) The sale to a consumer of diesel fuel, by a motor	546
fuel dealer for delivery from a bulk lot vehicle, for	547
consumption in operating a vessel when the use of such fuel in a	548
vessel would otherwise qualify for a refund under section	549
5735.14 of the Revised Code.	550
Division (C) (1) of this section does not apply to the sale	551
or distribution of dyed diesel fuel used to operate a motor	552
vehicle on the public highways or upon water within the	553
boundaries of this state by persons permitted under regulations	554
of the United States department of the treasury or of the	555
Internal Revenue Service to so use dyed diesel fuel.	556
(D) The use of any revenue from the tax levied under this	557
section shall be used for construction, maintenance, and repair	558
of roads and bridges, the operational costs of applicable state	559

agencies, or used to match other revenue for these purposes. 560

(E) Except as otherwise provided by ~~division~~divisions (F) 561  
and (G) of this section, the rates of tax imposed by this 562  
section on each gallon of motor fuel ~~on and after July 1, 2019,~~ 563  
shall be as follows: 564

(1) Thirty-eight and one-half cents on each gallon of 565  
gasoline; 566

(2) Forty-seven cents on each gallon of motor fuel other 567  
than gasoline 568

.

(F) Except as provided in division (G) of this section, 570  
the rates of tax imposed by this section on each gallon of motor 571  
fuel on and after the later of July 1, 2022, or the first day of 572  
the first month after the effective date of this amendment, and 573  
before the later of either July 1, 2027, or the first day of the 574  
first month beginning five years after that effective date shall 575  
be twenty-eight cents. 576

(G) The tax on each gallon equivalent of compressed 577  
natural gas shall be: 578

(1) Ten cents on and after July 1, 2019, and before July 579  
1, 2020; 580

(2) Twenty cents on and after July 1, 2020, and before 581  
July 1, 2021; 582

(3) Thirty cents on and after July 1, 2021, and before 583  
July 1, 2022; 584

(4) Forty cents on and after July 1, 2022, and before July 585  
1, 2023; 586

(5) Forty-seven cents on and after July 1, 2023. 587

~~(G)~~ (H) The tax commissioner may adopt rules as necessary 588  
to administer this section. 589

**Section 2.** That existing sections 4503.10 and 5735.05 of 590  
the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 591

**Section 3.** That the version of section 4503.10 of the 592  
Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect on October 1, 593  
2022, be amended to read as follows: 594

**Sec. 4503.10.** (A) The owner of every snowmobile, off- 595  
highway motorcycle, and all-purpose vehicle required to be 596  
registered under section 4519.02 of the Revised Code shall file 597  
an application for registration under section 4519.03 of the 598  
Revised Code. The owner of a motor vehicle, other than a 599  
snowmobile, off-highway motorcycle, or all-purpose vehicle, that 600  
is not designed and constructed by the manufacturer for 601  
operation on a street or highway may not register it under this 602  
chapter except upon certification of inspection pursuant to 603  
section 4513.02 of the Revised Code by the sheriff, or the chief 604  
of police of the municipal corporation or township, with 605  
jurisdiction over the political subdivision in which the owner 606  
of the motor vehicle resides. Except as provided in section 607  
4503.103 of the Revised Code, every owner of every other motor 608  
vehicle not previously described in this section and every 609  
person mentioned as owner in the last certificate of title of a 610  
motor vehicle that is operated or driven upon the public roads 611  
or highways shall cause to be filed each year, by mail or 612  
otherwise, in the office of the registrar of motor vehicles or a 613  
deputy registrar, a written or electronic application or a 614  
preprinted registration renewal notice issued under section 615  
4503.102 of the Revised Code, the form of which shall be 616

prescribed by the registrar, for registration for the following 617  
registration year, which shall begin on the first day of January 618  
of every calendar year and end on the thirty-first day of 619  
December in the same year. Applications for registration and 620  
registration renewal notices shall be filed at the times 621  
established by the registrar pursuant to section 4503.101 of the 622  
Revised Code. A motor vehicle owner also may elect to apply for 623  
or renew a motor vehicle registration by electronic means using 624  
electronic signature in accordance with rules adopted by the 625  
registrar. Except as provided in division (J) of this section, 626  
applications for registration shall be made on blanks furnished 627  
by the registrar for that purpose, containing the following 628  
information: 629

(1) A brief description of the motor vehicle to be 630  
registered, including the year, make, model, and vehicle 631  
identification number, and, in the case of commercial cars, the 632  
gross weight of the vehicle fully equipped computed in the 633  
manner prescribed in section 4503.08 of the Revised Code; 634

(2) The name and residence address of the owner, and the 635  
township and municipal corporation in which the owner resides; 636

(3) The district of registration, which shall be 637  
determined as follows: 638

(a) In case the motor vehicle to be registered is used for 639  
hire or principally in connection with any established business 640  
or branch business, conducted at a particular place, the 641  
district of registration is the municipal corporation in which 642  
that place is located or, if not located in any municipal 643  
corporation, the county and township in which that place is 644  
located. 645

(b) In case the vehicle is not so used, the district of 646  
registration is the municipal corporation or county in which the 647  
owner resides at the time of making the application. 648

(4) Whether the motor vehicle is a new or used motor 649  
vehicle; 650

(5) The date of purchase of the motor vehicle; 651

(6) Whether the fees required to be paid for the 652  
registration or transfer of the motor vehicle, during the 653  
preceding registration year and during the preceding period of 654  
the current registration year, have been paid. Each application 655  
for registration shall be signed by the owner, either manually 656  
or by electronic signature, or pursuant to obtaining a limited 657  
power of attorney authorized by the registrar for registration, 658  
or other document authorizing such signature. If the owner 659  
elects to apply for or renew the motor vehicle registration with 660  
the registrar by electronic means, the owner's manual signature 661  
is not required. 662

(7) The owner's social security number, driver's license 663  
number, or state identification number, or, where a motor 664  
vehicle to be registered is used for hire or principally in 665  
connection with any established business, the owner's federal 666  
taxpayer identification number. The bureau of motor vehicles 667  
shall retain in its records all social security numbers provided 668  
under this section, but the bureau shall not place social 669  
security numbers on motor vehicle certificates of registration. 670

(8) Whether the applicant wishes to certify willingness to 671  
make an anatomical gift if an applicant has not so certified 672  
under section 2108.05 of the Revised Code. The applicant's 673  
response shall not be considered in the decision of whether to 674

approve the application for registration. 675

(B) (1) When an applicant first registers a motor vehicle 676  
in the applicant's name, the applicant shall provide proof of 677  
ownership of that motor vehicle. Proof of ownership may include 678  
any of the following: 679

(a) The applicant may present for inspection a physical 680  
certificate of title or memorandum certificate showing title to 681  
the motor vehicle to be registered in the name of the applicant. 682

(b) The applicant may present for inspection an electronic 683  
certificate of title for the applicant's motor vehicle in a 684  
manner prescribed by rules adopted by the registrar. 685

(c) The registrar or deputy registrar may electronically 686  
confirm the applicant's ownership of the motor vehicle. 687

An applicant is not required to present a certificate of 688  
title to an electronic motor vehicle dealer acting as a limited 689  
authority deputy registrar in accordance with rules adopted by 690  
the registrar. 691

(2) When a motor vehicle inspection and maintenance 692  
program is in effect under section 3704.14 of the Revised Code 693  
and rules adopted under it, each application for registration 694  
for a vehicle required to be inspected under that section and 695  
those rules shall be accompanied by an inspection certificate 696  
for the motor vehicle issued in accordance with that section. 697

(3) An application for registration shall be refused if 698  
any of the following applies: 699

(a) The application is not in proper form. 700

(b) The application is prohibited from being accepted by 701  
division (D) of section 2935.27, division (A) of section 702



2937.221, division (A) of section 4503.13, division (B) of 703  
section 4510.22, or division (B)(1) of section 4521.10 of the 704  
Revised Code. 705

(c) Proof of ownership is required but is not presented or 706  
confirmed in accordance with division (B)(1) of this section. 707

(d) All registration and transfer fees for the motor 708  
vehicle, for the preceding year or the preceding period of the 709  
current registration year, have not been paid. 710

(e) The owner or lessee does not have an inspection 711  
certificate for the motor vehicle as provided in section 3704.14 712  
of the Revised Code, and rules adopted under it, if that section 713  
is applicable. 714

(4) This section does not require the payment of license 715  
or registration taxes on a motor vehicle for any preceding year, 716  
or for any preceding period of a year, if the motor vehicle was 717  
not taxable for that preceding year or period under sections 718  
4503.02, 4503.04, 4503.11, 4503.12, and 4503.16 or Chapter 4504. 719  
of the Revised Code. 720

(5) When a certificate of registration is issued upon the 721  
first registration of a motor vehicle by or on behalf of the 722  
owner, the official issuing the certificate shall indicate the 723  
issuance with a stamp on the certificate of title or memorandum 724  
certificate or, in the case of an electronic certificate of 725  
title or electronic verification of ownership, an electronic 726  
stamp or other notation as specified in rules adopted by the 727  
registrar, and with a stamp on the inspection certificate for 728  
the motor vehicle, if any. 729

(6) The official also shall indicate, by a stamp or by 730  
other means the registrar prescribes, on the registration 731

certificate issued upon the first registration of a motor 732  
vehicle by or on behalf of the owner the odometer reading of the 733  
motor vehicle as shown in the odometer statement included in or 734  
attached to the certificate of title. Upon each subsequent 735  
registration of the motor vehicle by or on behalf of the same 736  
owner, the official also shall so indicate the odometer reading 737  
of the motor vehicle as shown on the immediately preceding 738  
certificate of registration. 739

(7) The registrar shall include in the permanent 740  
registration record of any vehicle required to be inspected 741  
under section 3704.14 of the Revised Code the inspection 742  
certificate number from the inspection certificate that is 743  
presented at the time of registration of the vehicle as required 744  
under this division. 745

(C) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) (1) of 746  
this section, the registrar and each deputy registrar shall 747  
collect an additional fee of eleven dollars for each application 748  
for registration and registration renewal received. For vehicles 749  
specified in divisions (A) (1) to (21) of section 4503.042 of the 750  
Revised Code, the registrar and deputy registrar shall collect 751  
an additional fee of thirty dollars for each application for 752  
registration and registration renewal received. No additional 753  
fee shall be charged for vehicles registered under section 754  
4503.65 of the Revised Code. The additional fee is for the 755  
purpose of defraying the department of public safety's costs 756  
associated with the administration and enforcement of the motor 757  
vehicle and traffic laws of Ohio. Each deputy registrar shall 758  
transmit the fees collected under divisions (C) (1), (3), and (4) 759  
of this section in the time and manner provided in this section. 760  
The registrar shall deposit all moneys received under division 761  
(C) (1) of this section into the public safety - highway purposes 762

fund established in section 4501.06 of the Revised Code. 763

(2) In addition, a charge of twenty-five cents shall be 764  
made for each reflectorized safety license plate issued, and a 765  
single charge of twenty-five cents shall be made for each county 766  
identification sticker or each set of county identification 767  
stickers issued, as the case may be, to cover the cost of 768  
producing the license plates and stickers, including material, 769  
manufacturing, and administrative costs. Those fees shall be in 770  
addition to the license tax. If the total cost of producing the 771  
plates is less than twenty-five cents per plate, or if the total 772  
cost of producing the stickers is less than twenty-five cents 773  
per sticker or per set issued, any excess moneys accruing from 774  
the fees shall be distributed in the same manner as provided by 775  
section 4501.04 of the Revised Code for the distribution of 776  
license tax moneys. If the total cost of producing the plates 777  
exceeds twenty-five cents per plate, or if the total cost of 778  
producing the stickers exceeds twenty-five cents per sticker or 779  
per set issued, the difference shall be paid from the license 780  
tax moneys collected pursuant to section 4503.02 of the Revised 781  
Code. 782

(3) The registrar and each deputy registrar shall collect 783  
an additional fee of two hundred dollars for each application 784  
for registration or registration renewal received for any plug- 785  
in hybrid electric motor vehicle or battery electric motor 786  
vehicle. The fee shall be prorated based on the number of months 787  
for which the plug-in hybrid electric motor vehicle or battery 788  
electric motor vehicle is registered. The registrar shall 789  
transmit all money arising from the fee imposed by division (C) 790  
(3) of this section to the treasurer of state for distribution 791  
in accordance with division (E) of section 5735.051 of the 792  
Revised Code, subject to division (D) of section 5735.05 of the 793

Revised Code. 794

(4) The registrar and each deputy registrar shall collect 795  
an additional fee of one hundred dollars for each application 796  
for registration or registration renewal received for any hybrid 797  
motor vehicle. The fee shall be prorated based on the number of 798  
months for which the hybrid motor vehicle is registered. The 799  
registrar shall transmit all money arising from the fee imposed 800  
by division (C) (4) of this section to the treasurer of state for 801  
distribution in accordance with division (E) of section 5735.051 802  
of the Revised Code, subject to division (D) of section 5735.05 803  
of the Revised Code. 804

(5) The fees established under divisions (C) (3) and (4) of 805  
this section shall not be collected beginning January 1, 2023, 806  
through December 31, 2027. 807

(D) Each deputy registrar shall be allowed a fee equal to 808  
the amount established under section 4503.038 of the Revised 809  
Code for each application for registration and registration 810  
renewal notice the deputy registrar receives, which shall be for 811  
the purpose of compensating the deputy registrar for the deputy 812  
registrar's services, and such office and rental expenses, as 813  
may be necessary for the proper discharge of the deputy 814  
registrar's duties in the receiving of applications and renewal 815  
notices and the issuing of registrations. 816

(E) Upon the certification of the registrar, the county 817  
sheriff or local police officials shall recover license plates 818  
erroneously or fraudulently issued. 819

(F) Each deputy registrar, upon receipt of any application 820  
for registration or registration renewal notice, together with 821  
the license fee and any local motor vehicle license tax levied 822

pursuant to Chapter 4504. of the Revised Code, shall transmit 823  
that fee and tax, if any, in the manner provided in this 824  
section, together with the original and duplicate copy of the 825  
application, to the registrar. The registrar, subject to the 826  
approval of the director of public safety, may deposit the funds 827  
collected by those deputies in a local bank or depository to the 828  
credit of the "state of Ohio, bureau of motor vehicles." Where a 829  
local bank or depository has been designated by the registrar, 830  
each deputy registrar shall deposit all moneys collected by the 831  
deputy registrar into that bank or depository not more than one 832  
business day after their collection and shall make reports to 833  
the registrar of the amounts so deposited, together with any 834  
other information, some of which may be prescribed by the 835  
treasurer of state, as the registrar may require and as 836  
prescribed by the registrar by rule. The registrar, within three 837  
days after receipt of notification of the deposit of funds by a 838  
deputy registrar in a local bank or depository, shall draw on 839  
that account in favor of the treasurer of state. The registrar, 840  
subject to the approval of the director and the treasurer of 841  
state, may make reasonable rules necessary for the prompt 842  
transmittal of fees and for safeguarding the interests of the 843  
state and of counties, townships, municipal corporations, and 844  
transportation improvement districts levying local motor vehicle 845  
license taxes. The registrar may pay service charges usually 846  
collected by banks and depositories for such service. If deputy 847  
registrars are located in communities where banking facilities 848  
are not available, they shall transmit the fees forthwith, by 849  
money order or otherwise, as the registrar, by rule approved by 850  
the director and the treasurer of state, may prescribe. The 851  
registrar may pay the usual and customary fees for such service. 852

(G) This section does not prevent any person from making 853

an application for a motor vehicle license directly to the 854  
registrar by mail, by electronic means, or in person at any of 855  
the registrar's offices, upon payment of a service fee equal to 856  
the amount established under section 4503.038 of the Revised 857  
Code for each application. 858

(H) No person shall make a false statement as to the 859  
district of registration in an application required by division 860  
(A) of this section. Violation of this division is falsification 861  
under section 2921.13 of the Revised Code and punishable as 862  
specified in that section. 863

(I) (1) Where applicable, the requirements of division (B) 864  
of this section relating to the presentation of an inspection 865  
certificate issued under section 3704.14 of the Revised Code and 866  
rules adopted under it for a motor vehicle, the refusal of a 867  
license for failure to present an inspection certificate, and 868  
the stamping of the inspection certificate by the official 869  
issuing the certificate of registration apply to the 870  
registration of and issuance of license plates for a motor 871  
vehicle under sections 4503.102, 4503.12, 4503.14, 4503.15, 872  
4503.16, 4503.171, 4503.172, 4503.19, 4503.40, 4503.41, 4503.42, 873  
4503.43, 4503.44, 4503.46, 4503.47, and 4503.51 of the Revised 874  
Code. 875

(2) (a) The registrar shall adopt rules ensuring that each 876  
owner registering a motor vehicle in a county where a motor 877  
vehicle inspection and maintenance program is in effect under 878  
section 3704.14 of the Revised Code and rules adopted under it 879  
receives information about the requirements established in that 880  
section and those rules and about the need in those counties to 881  
present an inspection certificate with an application for 882  
registration or preregistration. 883

(b) Upon request, the registrar shall provide the director of environmental protection, or any person that has been awarded a contract under section 3704.14 of the Revised Code, an on-line computer data link to registration information for all passenger cars, noncommercial motor vehicles, and commercial cars that are subject to that section. The registrar also shall provide to the director of environmental protection a magnetic data tape containing registration information regarding passenger cars, noncommercial motor vehicles, and commercial cars for which a multi-year registration is in effect under section 4503.103 of the Revised Code or rules adopted under it, including, without limitation, the date of issuance of the multi-year registration, the registration deadline established under rules adopted under section 4503.101 of the Revised Code that was applicable in the year in which the multi-year registration was issued, and the registration deadline for renewal of the multi-year registration.

(J) Subject to division (K) of this section, application for registration under the international registration plan, as set forth in sections 4503.60 to 4503.66 of the Revised Code, shall be made to the registrar on forms furnished by the registrar. In accordance with international registration plan guidelines and pursuant to rules adopted by the registrar, the forms shall include the following:

(1) A uniform mileage schedule;

(2) The gross vehicle weight of the vehicle or combined gross vehicle weight of the combination vehicle as declared by the registrant;

(3) Any other information the registrar requires by rule.

(K) The registrar shall determine the feasibility of 913  
implementing an electronic commercial fleet licensing and 914  
management program that will enable the owners of commercial 915  
tractors, commercial trailers, and commercial semitrailers to 916  
conduct electronic transactions by July 1, 2010, or sooner. If 917  
the registrar determines that implementing such a program is 918  
feasible, the registrar shall adopt new rules under this 919  
division or amend existing rules adopted under this division as 920  
necessary in order to respond to advances in technology. 921

If international registration plan guidelines and 922  
provisions allow member jurisdictions to permit applications for 923  
registrations under the international registration plan to be 924  
made via the internet, the rules the registrar adopts under this 925  
division shall permit such action. 926

**Section 4.** That the existing version of section 4503.10 of 927  
the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect on October 1, 928  
2022, is hereby repealed. 929

**Section 5.** Sections 3 and 4 of this act take effect 930  
October 1, 2022. 931