As Introduced

124th General Assembly **Regular Session** 2001-2002

H. B. No. 641

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REPRESENTATIVE Manning

A BILL

То	amend sections 5537.01, 5537.04, 5537.08, 5537.13,	1
	and 5537.14 and to enact sections 5537.041 and	2
	5537.081 of the Revised Code to subject the budget	3
	of the Ohio Turnpike Commission to the approval of	4
	the General Assembly through the appropriations	5
	process.	6

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

Section 1. That sections 5537.01, 5537.04, 5537	7.08, 5537.13,
and 5537.14 be amended and sections 5537.041 and 553	37.081 of the
Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:	

Sec. 5537.01. As used in this chapter:

- (A) "Commission" means the Ohio turnpike commission created by section 5537.02 of the Revised Code or, if that commission is abolished, the board, body, officer, or commission succeeding to the principal functions thereof or to which the powers given by this chapter to the commission are given by law.
- (B) "Project" or "turnpike project" means any express or limited access highway, super highway, or motorway constructed, operated, or improved, under the jurisdiction of the commission and pursuant to this chapter, at a location or locations reviewed by the turnpike oversight committee and approved by the governor,

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including all bridges, tunnels, overpasses, underpasses, interchanges, entrance plazas, approaches, those portions of connecting public roads that serve interchanges and are determined by the commission and the director of transportation to be necessary for the safe merging of traffic between the turnpike project and those public roads, toll booths, service facilities, and administration, storage, and other buildings, property, and facilities that the commission considers necessary for the operation or policing of the project, together with all property and rights which may be acquired by the commission for the construction, maintenance, or operation of the project, and includes any sections or extensions of a turnpike project designated by the commission as such for the particular purpose. Each turnpike project shall be separately designated, by name or number, and may be constructed, improved, or extended in such sections as the commission may from time to time determine. Construction includes the improvement and renovation of a previously constructed project, including additional interchanges, whether or not the project was initially constructed by the commission.

(C) "Cost," as applied to construction of a turnpike project, includes the cost of construction, including bridges over or under existing highways and railroads, acquisition of all property acquired by the commission for the construction, demolishing or removing any buildings or structures on land so acquired, including the cost of acquiring any lands to which the buildings or structures may be moved, site clearance, improvement, and preparation, diverting public roads, interchanges with public roads, access roads to private property, including the cost of land or easements therefor, all machinery, furnishings, and equipment, communications facilities, financing expenses, interest prior to and during construction and for one year after completion

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of construction, traffic estimates, indemnity and surety bonds and premiums on insurance, title work and title commitments, insurance, and quarantees, engineering, feasibility studies, and legal expenses, plans, specifications, surveys, estimates of cost and revenues, other expenses necessary or incident to determining the feasibility or practicability of constructing or operating a project, administrative expenses, and any other expense that may be necessary or incident to the construction of the project, the financing of the construction, and the placing of the project in operation. Any obligation or expense incurred by the department of transportation with the approval of the commission for surveys, borings, preparation of plans and specifications, and other engineering services in connection with the construction of a project, or by the federal government with the approval of the commission for any public road projects which must be reimbursed as a condition to the exercise of any of the powers of the commission under this chapter, shall be regarded as a part of the cost of the project and shall be reimbursed to the state or the federal government, as the case may be, from revenues, state taxes, or the proceeds of bonds as authorized by this chapter.

- (D) "Owner" includes all persons having any title or interest in any property authorized to be acquired by the commission under this chapter.
- (E) "Revenues" means all tolls, service revenues, investment income on special funds, rentals, gifts, grants, and all other moneys coming into the possession of or under the control of the commission by virtue of this chapter, except the proceeds from the sale of bonds. "Revenues" does not include state taxes.
- (F) "Public roads" means all public highways, roads, and streets in the state, whether maintained by a state agency or any other governmental agency.
 - (G) "Public utility facilities" means tracks, pipes, mains,

appliances of any public utility.

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- (H) "Financing expenses" means all costs and expenses 87 relating to the authorization, issuance, sale, delivery, 88 authentication, deposit, custody, clearing, registration, 89 transfer, exchange, fractionalization, replacement, payment, and 90 servicing of bonds including, without limitation, costs and 91 expenses for or relating to publication and printing, postage, 92 delivery, preliminary and final official statements, offering 93 circulars, and informational statements, travel and 94 transportation, underwriters, placement agents, investment 95 bankers, paying agents, registrars, authenticating agents, 96 remarketing agents, custodians, clearing agencies or corporations, 97 securities depositories, financial advisory services, 98 certifications, audits, federal or state regulatory agencies, 99 accounting and computation services, legal services and obtaining 100 approving legal opinions and other legal opinions, credit ratings, 101 redemption premiums, and credit enhancement facilities. 102
- (I) "Bond proceedings" means the resolutions, trust agreements, certifications, notices, sale proceedings, leases, lease-purchase agreements, assignments, credit enhancement facility agreements, and other agreements, instruments, and documents, as amended and supplemented, or any one or more or any combination thereof, authorizing, or authorizing or providing for the terms and conditions applicable to, or providing for the security or sale or award or liquidity of, bonds, and includes the provisions set forth or incorporated in those bonds and bond proceedings.
- (J) "Bond service charges" means principal, including any 113 mandatory sinking fund or mandatory redemption requirements for 114 the retirement of bonds, and interest and any redemption premium 115 payable on bonds, as those payments come due and are payable to 116

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the bondholder or to a person making payment under a credit	117
enhancement facility of those bond service charges to a	118
bondholder.	119
(K) "Bond service fund" means the applicable Ohio turnpike	120
bond service fund created by the bond proceedings in division (E)	121
of section 5537.13 of the Revised Code for and pledged to the	122
payment of bond service charges on bonds provided for by those	123
bond proceedings, including all moneys and investments, and	124
earnings from investments, credited and to be credited to that	125
fund as provided in the bond proceedings.	126
(L) "Bonds" means bonds, notes, including notes anticipating	127
bonds or other notes, commercial paper, certificates of	128
participation, or other evidences of obligation, including any	129
interest coupons pertaining thereto, issued by the commission	130
pursuant to this chapter.	131
(M) "Net revenues" means revenues lawfully available to pay	132
both current operating expenses of the commission and bond service	133
charges in any fiscal year or other specified period, less current	134
operating expenses of the commission and any amount necessary to	135
maintain a working capital reserve for that period.	136
(N) "Pledged revenues" means net revenues, moneys and	137
investments, and earnings on those investments, in the applicable	138
bond service fund and any other special funds, and the proceeds of	139
any bonds issued for the purpose of refunding prior bonds, all as	140
lawfully available and by resolution of the commission committed	141
for application as pledged revenues to the payment of bond service	142
charges on particular issues of bonds.	143
(0) "Service facilities" means service stations, restaurants,	144
and other facilities for food service, roadside parks and rest	145
areas, parking, camping, tenting, rest, and sleeping facilities,	146
hotels or motels, and all similar and other facilities providing	147

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services to the traveling public in connection with the use of a	148
turnpike project and owned, leased, licensed, or operated by the	149
commission.	150
(P) "Service revenues" means those revenues of the commission	151
derived from its ownership, leasing, licensing, or operation of	152
service facilities.	153
(Q) "Special funds" means the applicable bond service fund	154
and any accounts and subaccounts in that fund, any other funds or	155
accounts permitted by and established under, and identified as a	156
"special fund" or "special account" in, the bond proceedings,	157
including any special fund or account established for purposes of	158
rebate or other requirements under federal income tax laws.	159
(R) "State agencies" means the state, officers of the state,	160
and boards, departments, branches, divisions, or other units or	161
agencies of the state.	162
(S) "State taxes" means receipts of the commission from the	163
proceeds of state taxes or excises levied and collected, or	164
appropriated by the general assembly to the commission, for the	165
purposes and functions of the commission. State taxes do not	166
include tolls, or investment earnings on state taxes except on	167
those state taxes referred to in Section 5a of Article XII, Ohio	168
Constitution.	169
(T) "Tolls" means tolls, special fees or permit fees, or	170
other charges by the commission to the owners, lessors, lessees,	171
or operators of motor vehicles for the operation of or the right	172
to operate those vehicles on a turnpike project.	173
(U) "Credit enhancement facilities" means letters of credit,	174
lines of credit, standby, contingent, or firm securities purchase	175
agreements, insurance, or surety arrangements, guarantees, and	176
other arrangements that provide for direct or contingent payment	177
of bond service charges, for security or additional security in	178

the event of nonpayment or default in respect of bonds, or for				
making payment of bond service charges and at the option and on				
demand of bondholders or at the option of the commission or upon				
certain conditions occurring under put or similar arrangements, or				
for otherwise supporting the credit or liquidity of the bonds, and				
includes credit, reimbursement, marketing, remarketing, indexing,				
carrying, interest rate hedge as defined in section 133.01 of the				
Revised Code, and subrogation agreements, and other agreements and				
arrangements for payment and reimbursement of the person providing				
the credit enhancement facility and the security for that payment				
and reimbursement.				

- (V) "Person" has the same meaning as in section 1.59 of the Revised Code and, unless the context otherwise provides, also includes any governmental agency and any combination of those persons.
- (W) "Refund" means to fund and retire outstanding bonds, including advance refunding with or without payment or redemption prior to stated maturity.
- (X) "Governmental agency" means any state agency, federal agency, political subdivision, or other local, interstate, or regional governmental agency, and any combination of those agencies.
- (Y) "Property" has the same meaning as in section 1.59 of the Revised Code, and includes interests in property.
- (Z) "Administrative agent," "agent," "commercial paper,"
 "floating rate interest structure," "indexing agent," "interest
 rate period," "put arrangement," and "remarketing agent" have the
 same meanings as in section 9.98 of the Revised Code.
- (AA) "Outstanding," as applied to bonds, means outstanding in accordance with the terms of the bonds and the applicable bond proceedings.

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tolls;	240
(8) Acquire, hold, and dispose of property in the exercise of	241
its powers and the performance of its duties under this chapter;	242
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(9) Designate the locations and establish, limit, and control	244
such points of ingress to and egress from each turnpike project as	245
are necessary or desirable in the judgment of the commission and	246
of the director of transportation to ensure the proper operation	247
and maintenance of that project, and prohibit entrance to such a	248
project from any point not so designated;	249
(10) Make and enter into all contracts and agreements	250
necessary or incidental to the performance of its duties and the	251
execution of its powers under this chapter;	252
(11) Employ or retain or contract for the services of	253
consulting engineers, superintendents, managers, and any other	254
engineers, construction and accounting experts, financial	255
advisers, trustees, marketing, remarketing, and administrative	256
agents, attorneys, and other employees, independent contractors,	257
or agents that are necessary in its judgment and fix their	258
compensation, provided all such expenses shall be payable solely	259
from the proceeds of bonds or from revenues of the Ohio turnpike	260
system;	261
(12) Receive and accept from any federal agency, subject to	262
the approval of the governor, and from any other governmental	263
agency grants for or in aid of the construction, reconstruction,	264
repair, renovation, maintenance, or operation of any turnpike	265
project, and receive and accept aid or contributions from any	266
source or person of money, property, labor, or other things of	267
value, to be held, used, and applied only for the purposes for	268
which such grants and contributions are made;	269
(13) Provide coverage for its employees under Chapters 4123.	270

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and 4141. of the Revised Code.	271
(B) The commission may do all acts necessary or proper to	272
carry out the powers expressly granted in this chapter.	273
Sec. 5537 041. The Ohio turnpike fund is hereby created in	274
the state treasury. Beginning July 1, 2003, and except as provided	275
in division (E) of section 5537.13 of the Revised Code, the fund	276
shall consist of all revenues of the Ohio turnpike commission.	277
Money credited to the Ohio turnpike fund shall be used by the	278
commission for operating expenses and for all lawful purposes of	279
the commission. All investment earnings of the fund shall be	280
credited to the fund.	281
Sec. 5537.08. (A) The Ohio turnpike commission may provide by	282
resolution for the issuance, in amounts authorized by the general	283
assembly at one time or from time to time, of revenue bonds of the	284
state for the purpose of paying all or any part of the cost of any	285
one or more turnpike projects. The bond service charges shall be	286
payable solely from pledged revenues pledged for such payment	287
pursuant to the applicable bond proceedings. The bonds of each	288
issue shall be dated, shall bear interest at a rate or rates or at	289
variable rates, and shall mature or be payable at such time or	290
times, with a final maturity not to exceed forty years from their	291
date or dates, all as determined by the commission in the bond	292
proceedings. The commission shall determine the form of the bonds,	293
including any interest coupons to be attached thereto, and shall	294
fix the denomination or denominations of the bonds and the place	295
or places of payment of bond service charges.	296
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(B) The bonds shall be signed by the chairperson or	298
vice-chairperson of the commission or by the facsimile signature	299
of that officer, the official seal of the commission or a	300

facsimile thereof shall be affixed thereto or printed thereon and	301
attested by the secretary-treasurer of the commission, which may	302
be by facsimile signature, and any coupons attached thereto shall	303
bear the facsimile signature of the chairperson or	304
vice-chairperson of the commission. In case any officer whose	305
signature, or a facsimile of whose signature, appears on any bonds	306
or coupons ceases to be such officer before delivery of bonds,	307
such signature or facsimile shall nevertheless be valid and	308
sufficient for all purposes the same as if the officer had	309
remained in office until such delivery.	310

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- (C) Subject to the bond proceedings and provisions for registration, the bonds shall have all the qualities and incidents of negotiable instruments under Title XIII of the Revised Code. The bonds may be issued in such form or forms as the commission determines, including without limitation coupon, book entry, and fully registered form, and provision may be made for the registration of any coupon bonds as to principal alone and also as to both principal and interest, and for the exchange of bonds between forms. The commission may sell such bonds by competitive bid on the best bid after advertisement or request for bids or by private sale in the manner, and for the price, it determines to be for the best interest of the state. The determination of the commission as to the manner of sale, by competitive bid or by private sale, shall be approved by the controlling board.
- (D) The proceeds of the bonds of each issue shall be used solely for the payment of the costs of the turnpike project or projects for which such bonds were issued, and shall be disbursed in such manner and under such restrictions as the commission provides in the bond proceedings.
- (E) Prior to the preparation of definitive bonds, the 330 commission may, under like restrictions, issue interim receipts or 331 temporary bonds or bond anticipation notes, with or without 332

coupons, exchangeable for definitive bonds when such bonds have
been executed and are available for delivery. The commission may
provide for the replacement of any mutilated, stolen, destroyed,
or lost bonds. Bonds may be issued by the commission under this
chapter without obtaining the consent of any state agency, and
without any other proceedings or the happening of any other
conditions or things than those proceedings, conditions, or things
that are specifically required by this chapter or those
proceedings.

- (F) Sections 9.98 to 9.983 of the Revised Code apply to the bonds.
- (G) The bond proceedings shall provide, subject to the provisions of any other applicable bond proceedings, for the pledge to the payment of bond service charges and of any costs of or relating to credit enhancement facilities of all, or such part as the commission may determine, of the pledged revenues and the applicable special fund or funds, which pledges may be made to secure the bonds on a parity with bonds theretofore or thereafter issued if and to the extent provided in the bond proceedings. Every pledge, and every covenant and agreement with respect thereto, made in the bond proceedings may in the bond proceedings be extended to the benefit of the owners and holders of bonds and to any trustee and any person providing a credit enhancement facility for those bonds, for the further security for the payment of the bond service charges and credit enhancement facility costs.
- (H) The bond proceedings may contain additional provisions as 358 to:
- (1) The redemption of bonds prior to maturity at the option of the commission or of the bondholders or upon the occurrence of certain stated conditions, and at such price or prices and under such terms and conditions as are provided in the bond proceedings;

(2)	Other	terms	of	the	bonds;	364
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- (3) Limitations on the issuance of additional bonds;
- (4) The terms of any trust agreement securing the bonds or 366 under which the same may be issued; 367
- (5) Any or every provision of the bond proceedings being binding upon the commission and state agencies, or other person as may from time to time have the authority under law to take such actions as may be necessary to perform all or any part of the duty required by such provision;
 - (6) Any provision that may be made in a trust agreement;
- (7) Any other or additional agreements with the holders of the bonds, or the trustee therefor, relating to the bonds or the security for the bonds, including agreements for credit enhancement facilities.
- (I) Any holder of bonds or a trustee under the bond proceedings, except to the extent that the holder's or trustee's rights are restricted by the bond proceedings, may by any suitable form of legal proceedings, protect and enforce any rights under the laws of this state or granted by the bond proceedings. Those rights include the right to compel the performance of all duties of the commission and state agencies required by this chapter or the bond proceedings; to enjoin unlawful activities; and in the event of default with respect to the payment of any bond service charges on any bonds or in the performance of any covenant or agreement on the part of the commission contained in the bond proceedings, to apply to a court having jurisdiction of the cause to appoint a receiver to receive and administer the revenues and the pledged revenues which are pledged to the payment of the bond service charges on such bonds or which are the subject of the covenant or agreement, with full power to pay, and to provide for payment of, bond service charges on such bonds, and with such

powers, subject to the direction of the court, as are accorded receivers in general equity cases, excluding any power to pledge additional revenues or receipts or other income, funds, or moneys of the commission or state agencies to the payment of such bond service charges and excluding the power to take possession of, mortgage, or cause the sale or otherwise dispose of any turnpike project or other property of the commission.

- (J) Each duty of the commission and the commission's officers and employees, undertaken pursuant to the bond proceedings, is hereby established as a duty of the commission, and of each such officer, member, or employee having authority to perform the duty, specifically enjoined by law resulting from an office, trust, or station within the meaning of section 2731.01 of the Revised Code.
- (K) The commission's officers or employees are not liable in their personal capacities on any bonds issued by the commission or any agreements of or with the commission relating to those bonds.
- (L) The bonds are lawful investments for banks, savings and loan associations, credit union share guaranty corporations, trust companies, trustees, fiduciaries, insurance companies, including domestic for life and domestic not for life, trustees or other officers having charge of sinking and bond retirement or other funds of the state or its political subdivisions and taxing districts, the commissioners of the sinking fund of the state, the administrator of workers' compensation, the state teachers retirement system, the public employees retirement system, the school employees retirement system, and the Ohio police and fire pension fund, notwithstanding any other provisions of the Revised Code or rules adopted pursuant thereto by any state agency with respect to investments by them, and are also acceptable as security for the repayment of the deposit of public moneys.
 - (M) Provision may be made in the applicable bond proceedings

for the establishment of separate accounts in the bond service					
fund and for the application of such accounts only to the					
specified bond service charges pertinent to such accounts and bond					
service fund, and for other accounts therein within the general					
purposes of such fund.					

(N) The commission may pledge all, or such portion as it determines, of the pledged revenues to the payment of bond service charges, and for the establishment and maintenance of any reserves and special funds, as provided in the bond proceedings, and make other provisions therein with respect to pledged revenues, revenues, and net revenues as authorized by this chapter, which provisions are controlling notwithstanding any other provisions of law pertaining thereto.

Sec. 5537 081. The Ohio turnpike bond fund is hereby created in the state treasury. The fund shall consist of all proceeds of bonds issued after the effective date of this section. Money credited to the fund shall be used by the Ohio turnpike commission to pay all or any part of the cost of one or more turnpike projects in accordance with the bond proceedings. All investment earnings of the fund shall be credited to the fund.

Sec. 5537.13. (A) Subject to section 5537.26 of the Revised Code, the Ohio turnpike commission may fix, revise, charge, and collect tolls for each turnpike project, and contract in the manner provided by this section with any person desiring the use of any part thereof, including the right-of-way adjoining the paved portion, for placing thereon telephone, electric light, or power lines, service facilities, or for any other purpose, and fix the terms, conditions, rents, and rates of charge for such use, provided that no toll, charge, or rental may be made by the commission for placing in, on, along, over, or under the turnpike project, equipment or public utility facilities that are necessary

the cost of maintenance, improvement, repair, and operation and to

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provide any reserves therefor that are provided for in the bond proceedings authorizing the issuance of those outstanding bonds, and otherwise as provided by the commission, and the. The balance of the pledged revenues shall be set aside, at such regular intervals as are provided in the bond proceedings, in a the Ohio turnpike bond service fund, which is hereby created in the state treasury and pledged to and charged with the payment of the bond service charges on any such outstanding bonds as provided in the applicable bond proceedings. The pledge shall be valid and binding from the time the pledge is made; the revenues and the pledged revenues thereafter received by the commission immediately shall be subject to the lien of the pledge without any physical delivery thereof or further act, and the lien of the pledge shall be valid and binding as against all parties having claims of any kind in tort, contract, or otherwise against the commission, whether or not those parties have notice thereof. The bond proceedings by which a pledge is created need not be filed or recorded except in the records of the commission. The use and disposition of moneys to the credit of a the bond service fund shall be subject to the applicable bond proceedings. Except as is otherwise provided in such bond proceedings, such a The bond service fund shall be a fund for all such bonds, without distinction or priority of one over another.

Sec. 5537.14. All moneys received by the Ohio turnpike commission under this chapter, whether as proceeds from the sale of bonds or as revenues, are to be held and applied solely as provided in this chapter and in any applicable bond proceedings. Such moneys shall be kept in depositories as selected by the commission in the manner provided in sections 135.01 to 135.21 of the Revised Code, insofar as such sections are applicable, and the deposits shall be secured as provided in sections 135.01 to 135.21 of the Revised Code. The bond proceedings shall provide that any

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officer to whom, or any bank or trust company to which, revenues	521
or pledged revenues are paid shall act as trustee of such moneys	522
and hold and apply them for the purposes thereof, subject to	523
applicable provisions of this chapter and the bond proceedings.	524
Section 2. That existing sections 5537.01, 5537.04, 5537.08,	525
5537.13, and 5537.14 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.	526
Section 3. Notwithstanding this act's amendments to Chapter	527
5537. of the Revised Code, with regard to bond proceedings and	528
other contracts in effect before the effective date of this act,	529
the Ohio Turnpike Commission shall deposit revenues as provided in	530
those proceedings or contracts rather than as provided in those	531
amendments.	532