

**As Passed by the House**

**126th General Assembly  
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**Am. H. B. No. 298**

**Representatives Peterson, Daniels, C. Evans, Carano, McGregor, Ujvagi,  
Combs, Aslanides, Harwood, Seaver, Miller, Latta, Oelslager, Kearns, Setzer,  
Perry, Seitz, Chandler, Schaffer, S. Patton, Reidelbach, Hughes, Otterman,  
Willamowski, Hoops, Mason, Allen, Hagan, Wagoner, Redfern, Flowers,  
Barrett, Book, Cassell, DeBose, Distel, Domenick, Evans, D., Hartnett, Key,  
Kilbane, Schlichter, Stewart, D., Stewart, J., Sykes, Williams, Yuko, Beatty**

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**A B I L L**

To amend section 4501.21 and to enact section 1  
4503.493 of the Revised Code to establish an 2  
autism awareness license plate and to provide that 3  
money from the contributions for the license 4  
plates be used to pay for programs and awareness 5  
efforts of the Autism Society of Ohio. 6

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

**Section 1.** That section 4501.21 be amended and section 7  
4503.493 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 8

**Sec. 4501.21.** (A) There is hereby created in the state 9  
treasury the license plate contribution fund. The fund shall 10  
consist of all contributions paid by motor vehicle registrants and 11  
collected by the registrar of motor vehicles pursuant to sections 12  
4503.491, 4503.493, 4503.50, 4503.501, 4503.502, 4503.51, 13  
4503.522, 4503.545, 4503.55, 4503.551, 4503.552, 4503.561, 14  
4503.562, 4503.591, 4503.67, 4503.68, 4503.69, 4503.71, 4503.711, 15

4503.72, 4503.73, 4503.74, and 4503.75 of the Revised Code. 16

(B) The registrar shall ~~disburse~~ pay the contributions the 17  
registrar collects in the fund as follows: 18

(1) The registrar shall pay the contributions received 19  
pursuant to section 4503.491 of the Revised Code to the breast 20  
cancer fund of Ohio, which shall use that money only to pay for 21  
programs that provide assistance and education to Ohio breast 22  
cancer patients and that improve access for such patients to 23  
quality health care and clinical trials and shall not use any of 24  
the money for abortion information, counseling, services, or other 25  
abortion-related activities. 26

(2) The registrar shall pay the contributions received 27  
pursuant to section 4503.493 of the Revised Code to the autism 28  
society of Ohio, which shall use the contributions for programs 29  
and autism awareness efforts throughout the state. 30

(3) The registrar shall pay the contributions the registrar 31  
receives pursuant to section 4503.50 of the Revised Code to the 32  
future farmers of America foundation, which shall deposit the 33  
contributions into its general account to be used for educational 34  
and scholarship purposes of the future farmers of America 35  
foundation. 36

~~(3)~~(4) The registrar shall pay the contributions the 37  
registrar receives pursuant to section 4503.501 of the Revised 38  
Code to the 4-H youth development program of the Ohio state 39  
university extension program, which shall use those contributions 40  
to pay the expenses it incurs in conducting its educational 41  
activities. 42

~~(4)~~(5) The registrar shall pay the contributions received 43  
pursuant to section 4503.502 of the Revised Code to the Ohio 44  
cattlemen's foundation, which shall use those contributions for 45

scholarships and other educational activities. 46

~~(5)~~(6) The registrar shall pay each contribution the 47  
registrar receives pursuant to section 4503.51 of the Revised Code 48  
to the university or college whose name or marking or design 49  
appears on collegiate license plates that are issued to a person 50  
under that section. A university or college that receives 51  
contributions from the fund shall deposit the contributions into 52  
its general scholarship fund. 53

~~(6)~~(7) The registrar shall pay the contributions the 54  
registrar receives pursuant to section 4503.522 of the Revised 55  
Code to the "friends of Perry's victory and international peace 56  
memorial, incorporated," a nonprofit corporation organized under 57  
the laws of this state, to assist that organization in paying the 58  
expenses it incurs in sponsoring or holding charitable, 59  
educational, and cultural events at the monument. 60

~~(7)~~(8) The registrar shall pay the contributions the 61  
registrar receives pursuant to section 4503.55 of the Revised Code 62  
to the pro football hall of fame, which shall deposit the 63  
contributions into a special bank account that it establishes and 64  
which shall be separate and distinct from any other account the 65  
pro football hall of fame maintains, to be used exclusively for 66  
the purpose of promoting the pro football hall of fame as a travel 67  
destination. 68

~~(8)~~(9) The registrar shall pay the contributions that are 69  
paid to the registrar pursuant to section 4503.545 of the Revised 70  
Code to the national rifle association foundation, which shall use 71  
the money to pay the costs of the educational activities and 72  
programs the foundation holds or sponsors in this state. 73

~~(9)~~(10) In accordance with section 955.202 of the Revised 74  
Code, the registrar shall pay to the pets program funding board 75  
created by that section the contributions the registrar receives 76

pursuant to section 4503.551 of the Revised Code and any other 77  
money from any other source, including donations, gifts, and 78  
grants, that is designated by the source to be paid to the pets 79  
program funding board. The board shall use the moneys it receives 80  
under this section only to support programs for the sterilization 81  
of dogs and cats and for educational programs concerning the 82  
proper veterinary care of those animals. 83

~~(10)~~(11) The registrar shall pay the contributions the 84  
registrar receives pursuant to section 4503.552 of the Revised 85  
Code to the rock and roll hall of fame and museum, incorporated. 86

~~(11)~~(12) The registrar shall pay the contributions the 87  
registrar receives pursuant to section 4503.561 of the Revised 88  
Code to the state of Ohio chapter of ducks unlimited, inc., which 89  
shall deposit the contributions into a special bank account that 90  
it establishes. The special bank account shall be separate and 91  
distinct from any other account the state of Ohio chapter of ducks 92  
unlimited, inc., maintains and shall be used exclusively for the 93  
purpose of protecting, enhancing, restoring, and managing wetlands 94  
and conserving wildlife habitat. The state of Ohio chapter of 95  
ducks unlimited, inc., annually shall notify the registrar in 96  
writing of the name, address, and account to which payments are to 97  
be made under division (B)~~(11)~~(12) of this section. 98

~~(12)~~(13) The registrar shall pay the contributions the 99  
registrar receives pursuant to section 4503.562 of the Revised 100  
Code to the Mahoning river consortium, which shall use the money 101  
to pay the expenses it incurs in restoring and maintaining the 102  
Mahoning river watershed. 103

~~(13)~~(14)(a) The registrar shall pay to a sports commission 104  
created pursuant to section 4503.591 of the Revised Code each 105  
contribution the registrar receives under that section that an 106  
applicant pays to obtain license plates that bear the logo of a 107  
professional sports team located in the county of that sports 108

commission and that is participating in the license plate program 109  
pursuant to division (E) of that section, irrespective of the 110  
county of residence of an applicant. 111

(b) The registrar shall pay to a community charity each 112  
contribution the registrar receives under section 4503.591 of the 113  
Revised Code that an applicant pays to obtain license plates that 114  
bear the logo of a professional sports team that is participating 115  
in the license plate program pursuant to division (G) of that 116  
section. 117

~~(14)~~(15) The registrar shall pay the contributions the 118  
registrar receives pursuant to section 4503.67 of the Revised Code 119  
to the Dan Beard council of the boy scouts of America. The council 120  
shall distribute all contributions in an equitable manner 121  
throughout the state to regional councils of the boy scouts. 122

~~(15)~~(16) The registrar shall pay the contributions the 123  
registrar receives pursuant to section 4503.68 of the Revised Code 124  
to the great river council of the girl scouts of the United States 125  
of America. The council shall distribute all contributions in an 126  
equitable manner throughout the state to regional councils of the 127  
girl scouts. 128

~~(16)~~(17) The registrar shall pay the contributions the 129  
registrar receives pursuant to section 4503.69 of the Revised Code 130  
to the Dan Beard council of the boy scouts of America. The council 131  
shall distribute all contributions in an equitable manner 132  
throughout the state to regional councils of the boy scouts. 133

~~(17)~~(18) The registrar shall pay the contributions the 134  
registrar receives pursuant to section 4503.71 of the Revised Code 135  
to the fraternal order of police of Ohio, incorporated, which 136  
shall deposit the fees into its general account to be used for 137  
purposes of the fraternal order of police of Ohio, incorporated. 138

~~(18)~~(19) The registrar shall pay the contributions the 139

registrar receives pursuant to section 4503.711 of the Revised 140  
Code to the fraternal order of police of Ohio, incorporated, which 141  
shall deposit the contributions into an account that it creates to 142  
be used for the purpose of advancing and protecting the law 143  
enforcement profession, promoting improved law enforcement 144  
methods, and teaching respect for law and order. 145

~~(19)~~(20) The registrar shall pay the contributions the 146  
registrar receives pursuant to section 4503.72 of the Revised Code 147  
to the organization known on March 31, 2003, as the Ohio CASA/GAL 148  
association, a private, nonprofit corporation organized under 149  
Chapter 1702. of the Revised Code. The Ohio CASA/GAL association 150  
shall use these contributions to pay the expenses it incurs in 151  
administering a program to secure the proper representation in the 152  
courts of this state of abused, neglected, and dependent children, 153  
and for the training and supervision of persons participating in 154  
that program. 155

~~(20)~~(21) The registrar shall pay the contributions the 156  
registrar receives pursuant to section 4503.73 of the Revised Code 157  
to Wright B. Flyer, incorporated, which shall deposit the 158  
contributions into its general account to be used for purposes of 159  
Wright B. Flyer, incorporated. 160

~~(21)~~(22) The registrar shall pay the contributions the 161  
registrar receives pursuant to section 4503.74 of the Revised Code 162  
to the Columbus zoological park association, which shall disburse 163  
the moneys to Ohio's major metropolitan zoos, as defined in 164  
section 4503.74 of the Revised Code, in accordance with a written 165  
agreement entered into by the major metropolitan zoos. 166

~~(22)~~(23) The registrar shall pay the contributions the 167  
registrar receives pursuant to section 4503.75 of the Revised Code 168  
to the rotary foundation, located on March 31, 2003, in Evanston, 169  
Illinois, to be placed in a fund known as the permanent fund and 170  
used to endow educational and humanitarian programs of the rotary 171

foundation. 172

(C) All investment earnings of the license plate contribution 173  
fund shall be credited to the fund. Not later than the first day 174  
of May of every year, the registrar shall distribute to each 175  
entity described in divisions (B)(1) to ~~(22)~~(23) of this section 176  
the investment income the fund earned the previous calendar year. 177  
The amount of such a distribution paid to an entity shall be 178  
proportionate to the amount of money the entity received from the 179  
fund during the previous calendar year. 180

Sec. 4503.493. (A) The owner or lessee of any passenger car, 181  
noncommercial motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, or other 182  
vehicle of a class approved by the registrar of motor vehicles may 183  
apply to the registrar for the registration of the vehicle and 184  
issuance of autism awareness license plates. An application made 185  
under this section may be combined with a request for a special 186  
reserved license plate under section 4503.40 or 4503.42 of the 187  
Revised Code. Upon receipt of the completed application and 188  
compliance by the applicant with divisions (B) and (C) of this 189  
section, the registrar shall issue to the applicant the 190  
appropriate vehicle registration and a set of autism awareness 191  
license plates and a validation sticker, or a validation sticker 192  
alone when required by section 4503.191 of the Revised Code. 193

In addition to the letters and numbers ordinarily inscribed 194  
on the license plates, autism awareness license plates shall be 195  
inscribed with identifying words or markings that are designed by 196  
the autism society of Ohio and approved by the registrar. Autism 197  
awareness license plates shall display county identification 198  
stickers that identify the county of registration by name or 199  
number. 200

(B) The autism awareness license plates and a validation 201  
sticker, or validation sticker alone, shall be issued upon receipt 202

of a contribution as provided in division (C)(1) of this section 203  
and upon payment of the regular license tax as prescribed under 204  
section 4503.04 of the Revised Code, any applicable motor vehicle 205  
license tax levied under Chapter 4504. of the Revised Code, any 206  
applicable additional fee prescribed by section 4503.40 or 4503.42 207  
of the Revised Code, a fee of ten dollars for the purpose of 208  
compensating the bureau of motor vehicles for additional services 209  
required in the issuing of autism awareness license plates, and 210  
compliance with all other applicable laws relating to the 211  
registration of motor vehicles. 212

(C)(1) For each application for registration and registration 213  
renewal notice the registrar receives under this section, the 214  
registrar shall collect a contribution of twenty-five dollars. The 215  
registrar shall deposit this contribution into the state treasury 216  
to the credit of the license plate contribution fund created in 217  
section 4501.21 of the Revised Code. 218

(2) The registrar shall deposit the additional fee of ten 219  
dollars paid to compensate the bureau for the additional services 220  
required in the issuing of autism awareness license plates into 221  
the state treasury to the credit of the state bureau of motor 222  
vehicles fund created by section 4501.25 of the Revised Code. 223

**Section 2.** That existing section 4501.21 of the Revised Code 224  
is hereby repealed. 225