

**As Reported by the House Transportation, Public Safety and
Homeland Security Committee**

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H. B. No. 107

Representatives Damschroder, Slesnick

**Cosponsors: Representatives Hall, McGregor, Derickson, Sears, Adams, J.,
Stebelton, Okey, Blair, Schuring, Reece, Young, Boose, Huffman, Garland,
Roegner, Mallory**

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A B I L L

To amend sections 4503.181, 4503.19, 4503.21, 1
4503.23, and 4549.10 and to enact section 4503.192 2
of the Revised Code to require that motor vehicles 3
carry only one license plate, to be displayed on 4
the rear of the vehicle. 5

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

Section 1. That sections 4503.181, 4503.19, 4503.21, 4503.23, 6
and 4549.10 be amended and section 4503.192 of the Revised Code be 7
enacted to read as follows: 8

Sec. 4503.181. (A) As used in this section, "historical motor 9
vehicle" means any motor vehicle that is more than twenty-five 10
years old and that is owned solely as a collector's item and for 11
participation in club activities, exhibitions, tours, parades, and 12
similar uses, but in no event is used for general transportation. 13

(B) In lieu of the annual license tax levied in sections 15
4503.02 and 4503.04 of the Revised Code, a license fee of ten 16

dollars is levied on the operation of an historical motor vehicle. 17

(C) A person who owns an historical motor vehicle and applies 18
for a license plates plate under this section shall execute an 19
affidavit that the vehicle for which ~~plates are~~ the plate is 20
requested is owned and operated solely for the purposes enumerated 21
in division (A) of this section, and also setting forth in the 22
affidavit that the vehicle has been inspected and found safe to 23
operate on the public roads and highways in the state. A person 24
who owns an historical motor vehicle and desires to display a 25
model year license ~~plates~~ plate on the vehicle as permitted by 26
this section shall execute at the time of registration an 27
affidavit setting forth that the model year license ~~plates~~ plate 28
the person desires to display on the person's historical motor 29
vehicle ~~are~~ is a legible and serviceable license ~~plates~~ plate that 30
originally ~~were~~ was issued by this state. No registration issued 31
pursuant to this section need specify the weight of the vehicle. 32

(D) A vehicle registered under this section may display an 33
historical vehicle license ~~plates~~ plate issued by the registrar of 34
motor vehicles or a model year license ~~plates~~ plate procured by 35
the applicant. ~~Historical~~ The historical vehicle license ~~plates~~ 36
plate shall not bear a date, but shall bear the inscription 37
"Historical Vehicle--Ohio" and the registration number, which 38
shall be shown thereon. ~~Model~~ The model year license ~~plates~~ plate 39
shall be a legible and serviceable license ~~plates~~ plate issued by 40
this state and inscribed with the date of the year corresponding 41
to the model year when the vehicle was manufactured. 42
~~Notwithstanding section 4503.21 of the Revised Code, only one~~ Two 43
model year license ~~plate is required to~~ plates, duplicates of each 44
other, may be displayed on ~~the rear of~~ the historical motor 45
vehicle at ~~all times~~ any time, one plate on the front and one 46
plate on the rear of the vehicle. The registration certificate and 47
the historical vehicle license ~~plates~~ plate issued by the 48

registrar shall be kept in the vehicle at all times the vehicle is 49
operated on the public roads and highways in this state. 50

Notwithstanding section 4503.21 of the Revised Code, the 51
owner of an historical motor vehicle that was manufactured for 52
military purposes and that is registered under this section may 53
display the assigned registration number of the vehicle by 54
painting the number on the front and rear of the vehicle. The 55
number shall be painted, in accordance with the size and style 56
specifications established for numerals and letters shown on 57
license plates in section 4503.22 of the Revised Code, in a color 58
that contrasts clearly with the color of the vehicle, and shall be 59
legible and visible at all times. Upon application for 60
registration under this section and payment of the license fee 61
prescribed in division (B) of this section, the owner of such an 62
historical motor vehicle shall be issued an historical vehicle 63
license ~~plates~~ plate. The registration certificate and ~~at least~~ 64
~~one such~~ the license plate shall be kept in the vehicle at all 65
times the vehicle is operated on the public roads and highways in 66
this state. If ownership of such a vehicle is transferred, the 67
transferor shall surrender the historical vehicle license ~~plates~~ 68
plate or transfer ~~them~~ it to another historical motor vehicle the 69
transferor owns, and remove or obliterate the registration numbers 70
painted on the vehicle. 71

(E) Historical vehicle and model year license plates are 72
valid without renewal as long as the vehicle for which they were 73
issued or procured is in existence. ~~Historical~~ An historical 74
vehicle ~~plates are~~ plate is issued for the owner's use only for 75
such vehicle unless later transferred to another historical motor 76
vehicle owned by that person. In order to effect such a transfer, 77
the owner of the historical motor vehicle that originally 78
displayed the historical vehicle ~~plates~~ plate shall comply with 79
division (C) of this section. In the event of a transfer of title, 80

the transferor shall surrender ~~the~~ historical vehicle license 81
~~plates~~ plate or transfer ~~them~~ it to another historical motor 82
vehicle owned by the transferor, but a model year license ~~plates~~ 83
plate may be retained by the transferor. The registrar may revoke 84
license plates issued under this section, for cause shown and 85
after hearing, for failure of the applicant to comply with this 86
section. Upon revocation, an historical vehicle license ~~plates~~ 87
plate shall be surrendered; a model year license ~~plates~~ plate may 88
be retained, but no longer ~~are~~ is valid for display on the 89
vehicle. 90

(F) The owner of an historical motor vehicle bearing an 91
historical vehicle license ~~plates~~ plate may replace ~~them~~ it with a 92
model year license ~~plates~~ plate by surrendering the historical 93
vehicle license ~~plates~~ plate and motor vehicle certificate of 94
registration to the registrar. The owner, at the time of 95
registration, shall execute an affidavit setting forth that the 96
model year ~~plates~~ are plate is a legible and serviceable license 97
~~plates~~ plate that originally ~~were~~ was issued by this state. Such 98
an owner is required to pay the license fee prescribed by division 99
(B) of this section, but the owner is not required to have the 100
historical motor vehicle reinspected under division (C) of this 101
section. 102

A person who owns an historical motor vehicle bearing a model 103
year license ~~plates~~ plate may replace ~~them~~ it with an historical 104
vehicle license ~~plates~~ plate by surrendering the motor vehicle 105
certificate of registration and applying for issuance of an 106
historical vehicle license ~~plates~~ plate. Such a person is required 107
to pay the license fee prescribed by division (B) of this section, 108
but the person is not required to have the historical motor 109
vehicle reinspected under division (C) of this section. 110

Sec. 4503.19. (A) Upon the filing of an application for 111

registration and the payment of the tax for registration, the 112
registrar of motor vehicles or a deputy registrar shall determine 113
whether the owner previously has been issued a license plates 114
plate for the motor vehicle described in the application. If no 115
license ~~plates~~ plate previously ~~have~~ has been issued to the owner 116
for that motor vehicle, the registrar or deputy registrar shall 117
assign to the motor vehicle a distinctive number and issue and 118
deliver to the owner in the manner that the registrar may select a 119
certificate of registration, in the form that the registrar shall 120
prescribe, and, ~~except as otherwise provided in this section, two~~ 121
a license plates, ~~duplicates of each other,~~ plate and a validation 122
sticker, or a validation sticker alone, to be attached to the 123
~~number plates~~ license plate as provided in section 4503.191 of the 124
Revised Code. The registrar or deputy registrar also shall charge 125
the owner any fees required under division (C) of section 4503.10 126
of the Revised Code. ~~Trailers, manufactured homes, mobile homes,~~ 127
~~semitrailers, the manufacturer thereof, the dealer, or in transit~~ 128
~~companies therein, shall be issued one license plate only and one~~ 129
~~validation sticker, or a validation sticker alone, and the~~ The 130
license plate and validation sticker shall be displayed ~~only~~ on 131
the rear of ~~such vehicles.~~ A the vehicle, except that a commercial 132
tractor ~~that does not receive an apportioned license plate under~~ 133
~~the international registration plan shall be issued two~~ display 134
the license ~~plates~~ plate and ~~one~~ validation sticker, ~~and the~~ 135
~~validation sticker shall be displayed~~ on the front of the 136
commercial tractor. ~~An apportioned vehicle receiving an~~ 137
~~apportioned license plate under the international registration~~ 138
~~plan shall be issued one license plate only and one validation~~ 139
~~sticker, or a validation sticker alone; the license plate shall be~~ 140
~~displayed only on the front of a semitractor and on the rear of~~ 141
~~all other vehicles.~~ School buses shall not be issued a license 142
~~plates~~ plate but shall bear identifying numbers in the manner 143

prescribed by section 4511.764 of the Revised Code. The 144
certificate of registration and license ~~plates~~ plate and 145
validation ~~stickers~~ sticker, or validation ~~stickers~~ sticker alone, 146
shall be issued and delivered to the owner in person or by mail. 147
Chauffeured limousines shall be issued a license ~~plates~~ plate, a 148
validation sticker, and a livery sticker as provided in section 149
4503.24 of the Revised Code. In the event of the loss, mutilation, 150
or destruction of any certificate of registration, or of any 151
license ~~plates~~ plate or validation ~~stickers~~ sticker, or if the 152
owner chooses to replace the license ~~plates~~ plate previously 153
issued for a motor vehicle, or if the registration certificate and 154
license ~~plates~~ plate have been impounded as provided by division 155
(B)(1) of section 4507.02 and section 4507.16 of the Revised Code, 156
the owner of a motor vehicle, or manufacturer or dealer, may 157
obtain from the registrar, or from a deputy registrar if 158
authorized by the registrar, a duplicate thereof or a new license 159
~~plates~~ plate bearing a different number, if the registrar 160
considers it advisable, upon filing an application prescribed by 161
the registrar, and upon paying a fee of one dollar for such 162
certificate of registration, which one dollar fee shall be 163
deposited into the state treasury to the credit of the state 164
bureau of motor vehicles fund created in section 4501.25 of the 165
Revised Code. Commencing with each request made on or after 166
October 1, 2009, or in conjunction with a replacement license 167
~~plates~~ plate issued for renewal registrations expiring on or after 168
October 1, 2009, a fee of ~~seven dollars and fifty cents for each~~ 169
~~set of two license plates or six dollars and fifty cents for each~~ 170
~~single~~ license plate or validation sticker shall be charged and 171
collected, of which the registrar shall deposit five dollars and 172
fifty cents of each ~~seven dollar and fifty cent fee or each six~~ 173
dollar and fifty cent fee into the state treasury to the credit of 174
the state highway safety fund created in section 4501.06 of the 175

Revised Code and the remaining portion of each such fee into the 176
state treasury to the credit of the state bureau of motor vehicles 177
fund created in section 4501.25 of the Revised Code. In addition, 178
each applicant for a replacement certificate of registration, 179
license plate, or validation sticker shall pay the fees provided 180
in divisions (C) and (D) of section 4503.10 of the Revised Code. 181

Additionally, the registrar and each deputy registrar who 182
either issues ~~a license plates~~ plate and a validation sticker for 183
use on any vehicle other than a commercial tractor, semitrailer, 184
or apportioned vehicle, or who issues a validation sticker alone 185
for use on such a vehicle and the owner has changed the owner's 186
county of residence since the owner last was issued county 187
identification stickers, also shall issue and deliver to the owner 188
~~either one or two a~~ a county identification ~~stickers, as appropriate~~ 189
sticker, which shall be attached to the license ~~plates~~ plate in a 190
manner prescribed by the director of public safety. The county 191
identification ~~stickers~~ sticker shall identify prominently by name 192
or number the county in which the owner of the vehicle resides at 193
the time of registration. 194

(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor 195
misdemeanor. 196

Sec. 4503.192. The display of a single current license plate 197
and validation sticker on the rear of a motor vehicle sufficiently 198
indicates that the vehicle is registered in this state. Any 199
reference in the Revised Code to license plates, a set of license 200
plates, registration plates, or validation stickers is deemed to 201
be a reference to the single license plate and validation sticker 202
required by section 4503.19 of the Revised Code. 203

Sec. 4503.21. (A) No person who is the owner or operator of a 204
motor vehicle shall fail to display in plain view on the ~~front and~~ 205

rear of the motor vehicle the distinctive number and registration 206
mark, including any county identification sticker and any 207
validation sticker issued under sections 4503.19 and 4503.191 of 208
the Revised Code, furnished by the director of public safety, 209
~~except that a manufacturer of motor vehicles or dealer therein,~~ 210
~~the holder of an in transit permit, and the owner or operator of a~~ 211
~~motorcycle, motorized bicycle, manufactured home, mobile home,~~ 212
~~trailer, or semitrailer shall display on the rear only. A motor~~ 213
~~vehicle that is issued two license plates shall display the~~ 214
~~validation sticker only on the rear license plate, except that a~~ 215
~~commercial tractor that does not receive an apportioned license~~ 216
~~plate under the international registration plan shall display the~~ 217
license plate and validation sticker on the front of the 218
commercial tractor. ~~An apportioned vehicle receiving an~~ 219
~~apportioned license plate under the international registration~~ 220
~~plan shall display the license plate only on the front of a~~ 221
~~commercial tractor and on the rear of all other vehicles. All The~~ 222
~~license plates~~ plate shall be securely fastened so as not to 223
swing, and shall not be covered by any material that obstructs 224
~~their~~ its visibility. 225

No person to whom a temporary license placard or windshield 226
sticker has been issued for the use of a motor vehicle under 227
section 4503.182 of the Revised Code, and no operator of that 228
motor vehicle, shall fail to display the temporary license placard 229
in plain view from the rear of the vehicle either in the rear 230
window or on an external rear surface of the motor vehicle, or 231
fail to display the windshield sticker in plain view on the rear 232
window of the motor vehicle. No temporary license placard or 233
windshield sticker shall be covered by any material that obstructs 234
its visibility. 235

(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor 236
misdemeanor. 237

Sec. 4503.23. No motor vehicle designed to carry passengers, 238
owned or leased by the state, or any of its departments, bureaus, 239
commissions, or institutions supported in whole or in part by 240
funds provided by the state, shall be operated or driven by any 241
person unless it has displayed, in a prominent position on ~~both~~ 242
the ~~front and~~ rear of the vehicle, ~~identification plates which a~~ 243
license plate that shall be the same size, shape, and treated for 244
increased visibility in the same manner as those issued by the 245
registrar of motor vehicles for private vehicles. ~~Such~~ 246
~~identification plates~~ The license plate shall be attached to the 247
vehicle in the same manner as provided by statute for the 248
illumination and attachment of ~~a license plates~~ plate on private 249
vehicles. The registrar shall designate the colors of the license 250
~~tags which~~ plate that shall be used on state-owned cars; ~~such the~~ 251
colors shall be other than those used on privately owned motor 252
vehicles, and shall apply only to license plates used on 253
state-owned motor vehicles. ~~Said plates~~ The plate shall bear a 254
special serial number, and the words "Ohio State Car." 255

Sec. 4549.10. (A) No person shall operate or cause to be 256
operated upon a public road or highway a motor vehicle of a 257
manufacturer or dealer unless the vehicle carries and displays ~~two~~ 258
~~placards~~ a placard, except as provided in section 4503.21 of the 259
Revised Code, issued by the director of public safety that ~~bear~~ 260
bears the registration number of its manufacturer or dealer. 261

(B) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty 262
of illegal operation of a manufacturer's or dealer's motor 263
vehicle, a minor misdemeanor. 264

Section 2. That existing sections 4503.181, 4503.19, 4503.21, 265
4503.23, and 4549.10 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 266