

# As Introduced

129th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2011-2012

S. B. No. 179

Senator Wilson

Cosponsors: Senators Sawyer, Tavares, Kearney, Schaffer

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## A B I L L

To amend section 1505.11 and to enact sections 1  
1505.12, 1505.13, and 4503.515 of the Revised Code 2  
to create the "Ohio Geology" license plate and to 3  
require the Ohio Geology Advisory Council to 4  
establish and administer a grant program utilizing 5  
the contributions that are paid by persons who 6  
obtain the license plate. 7

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

**Section 1.** That section 1505.11 be amended and sections 8  
1505.12, 1505.13, and 4503.515 of the Revised Code be enacted to 9  
read as follows: 10

**Sec. 1505.11.** (A) There is hereby created in the department 11  
of natural resources the Ohio geology advisory council consisting 12  
of seven members to be appointed by the governor with the advice 13  
and consent of the senate. No more than four of the members shall 14  
be of the same political party. Members shall be persons who have 15  
a demonstrated interest in Ohio geology and mineral resources and 16  
whose expertise reflects the various responsibilities of the 17  
division of geological survey. The council shall include at least 18  
one representative from each of the following: the oil and gas 19

industry, the industrial minerals industry, the coal industry, 20  
hydrogeology interests, environmental geology interests, and an 21  
institution of higher education in this state. The chief of the 22  
division may participate in the deliberations of the council, but 23  
shall not vote. 24

Within ninety days after ~~the effective date of this section~~ 25  
May 3, 1990, the governor shall make initial appointments to the 26  
council. Of the initial appointments, three shall be for a term 27  
ending one year after ~~the effective date of this section~~ May 3, 28  
1990, three shall be for a term ending two years after ~~the~~ 29  
~~effective date of this section~~ May 3, 1990, and one shall be for a 30  
term ending three years after ~~the effective date of this section~~ 31  
May 3, 1990. Thereafter, terms of office shall be for three years, 32  
with each term ending on the same day of the same month as did the 33  
term that it succeeds. Members may be reappointed. The governor 34  
may remove any member at any time for inefficiency, neglect of 35  
duty, or malfeasance in office. Vacancies shall be filled in the 36  
manner provided for original appointments. Any member appointed to 37  
fill a vacancy prior to the expiration date of the term for which 38  
~~his~~ the member's predecessor was appointed shall hold office as a 39  
member for the remainder of that term. A member shall continue in 40  
office subsequent to the expiration date of ~~his~~ the member's term 41  
until ~~his~~ the member's successor takes office or until a period of 42  
sixty days has elapsed, whichever occurs first. 43

Serving as an appointed member on the council does not 44  
constitute holding a public office or position of employment under 45  
the laws of this state and does not constitute grounds for removal 46  
of public officers or employees from their offices or positions of 47  
employment. 48

Members shall serve without compensation, but shall be 49  
reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the 50  
performance of their official duties from moneys appropriated to 51

the division. 52

The council annually shall select from its members a ~~chairman~~ 53  
chairperson and a ~~vice-chairman~~ vice-chairperson. The council 54  
shall hold at least one meeting each calendar quarter and shall 55  
keep a record of its proceedings, which shall be open to public 56  
inspection. Special meetings may be called by the ~~chairman~~ 57  
chairperson and shall be called upon the written request of two or 58  
more members. A majority of the members constitutes a quorum. The 59  
division shall furnish clerical, technical, legal, and other 60  
services required by the council in the performance of its duties. 61

(B) The council shall do all of the following: 62

~~(A)~~(1) Advise the chief of the division of geological survey 63  
in carrying out the duties of the division under this chapter; 64

~~(B)~~(2) Recommend policy and legislation with respect to 65  
geology, resource analysis, and management that will promote the 66  
economic and industrial development of the state while minimizing 67  
threats to the natural environment of the state; 68

~~(C)~~(3) Review and make recommendations on the development of 69  
plans and programs for long-term, comprehensive geologic mapping 70  
and analysis throughout the state; 71

~~(D)~~(4) Recommend ways to enhance cooperation among 72  
governmental agencies having an interest in Ohio geology to 73  
encourage wise use and management of the geology and mineral 74  
resources of the state. To this end, the council shall request 75  
nonvoting representation from appropriate governmental agencies; 76

(5) Establish and administer the grant program as described 77  
in section 1505.12 of the Revised Code. 78

**Sec. 1505.12.** The Ohio geology advisory council shall 79  
establish a grant program utilizing the contributions that are 80  
paid to the bureau of motor vehicles by persons who obtain "Ohio 81

geology" license plates pursuant to section 4503.515 of the 82  
Revised Code and are deposited into the "Ohio geology" license 83  
plate fund created by section 1505.13 of the Revised Code. The 84  
primary purpose of the program shall be the awarding of grants by 85  
the council to geology departments of colleges and universities 86  
located in this state for graduate level research conducted at 87  
locations of geological interest in this state. Subject to the 88  
amount of money in the fund, the secondary purpose of the program 89  
shall be to provide materials such as rock and mineral kits to 90  
elementary and secondary schools in this state to assist students 91  
at those schools in the study of geology. 92

The council shall award grants at least annually and, in its 93  
discretion, may award grants on a more frequent basis. 94

**Sec. 1505.13.** There is hereby created in the state treasury 95  
the "Ohio geology" license plate fund. The fund shall consist of 96  
the contributions that are paid to the bureau of motor vehicles by 97  
applicants who choose to obtain "Ohio geology" license plates 98  
pursuant to section 4503.515 of the Revised Code. 99

The contributions deposited into the fund shall be used by 100  
the Ohio geology advisory council in the manner described in 101  
section 1505.12 of the Revised Code. 102

**Sec. 4503.515.** (A) The owner or lessee of any passenger car, 103  
noncommercial motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, or other 104  
vehicle of a class approved by the registrar of motor vehicles may 105  
apply to the registrar for the registration of the vehicle and 106  
issuance of "Ohio geology" license plates. The application may be 107  
combined with a request for a special reserved license plate under 108  
section 4503.40 or 4503.42 of the Revised Code. Upon receipt of 109  
the completed application and compliance by the applicant with 110  
divisions (B) and (C) of this section, the registrar shall issue 111

to the applicant the appropriate vehicle registration and a set of 112  
"Ohio geology" license plates and a validation sticker, or a 113  
validation sticker alone when required by section 4503.191 of the 114  
Revised Code. 115

In addition to the letters and numbers ordinarily inscribed 116  
on the license plates, "Ohio geology" license plates shall bear an 117  
appropriate logo and words selected by the Ohio geology advisory 118  
council and approved by the registrar. "Ohio geology" license 119  
plates shall display county identification stickers that identify 120  
the county of registration by name or number. 121

(B) "Ohio geology" license plates and a validation sticker, 122  
or validation sticker alone, shall be issued upon receipt of an 123  
application for registration of a motor vehicle under this 124  
section; payment of the regular license tax as prescribed under 125  
section 4503.04 of the Revised Code, any applicable motor vehicle 126  
license tax levied under Chapter 4504. of the Revised Code, any 127  
applicable additional fee prescribed by section 4503.40 or 4503.42 128  
of the Revised Code, an additional fee of fifteen dollars, and a 129  
contribution as provided in division (C) of this section; and 130  
compliance with all other applicable laws relating to the 131  
registration of motor vehicles. 132

(C) For each application for registration and registration 133  
renewal notice the registrar receives under this section, the 134  
registrar shall collect a contribution of fifteen dollars. The 135  
registrar shall transmit this contribution to the treasurer of 136  
state for deposit into the state treasury to the credit of the 137  
"Ohio geology" license plate fund created by section 1505.13 of 138  
the Revised Code. 139

The registrar shall transmit the additional fee of ten 140  
dollars, the purpose of which is to compensate the bureau of motor 141  
vehicles for the additional services required in the issuing of 142

"Ohio geology" license plates, to the treasurer of state for 143  
deposit into the state treasury to the credit of the state bureau 144  
of motor vehicles fund created by section 4501.25 of the Revised 145  
Code. 146

**Section 2.** That existing section 1505.11 of the Revised Code 147  
is hereby repealed. 148