

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

**130th General Assembly
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H. B. No. 133

Representatives Slesnick, Johnson

**Cosponsors: Representatives Blair, Damschroder, DeVitis, Hall, Henne,
Hood, Letson, Maag, Mallory, Pillich, Ramos, Reece, Stautberg, Terhar,
Wachtmann, Young, Ruhl**

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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, and to amend the version 5
of section 4503.21 of the Revised Code that is 6
scheduled to take effect January 1, 2017, to 7
continue the provisions of this act on and after 8
that effective date. 9

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

Section 1. That sections 4503.181, 4503.19, 4503.21, 4503.23, 10
and 4549.10 be amended and section 4503.192 of the Revised Code be 11
enacted to read as follows: 12

Sec. 4503.181. (A) As used in this section, "historical motor 13
vehicle" means any motor vehicle that is more than twenty-five 14
years old and that is owned solely as a collector's item and for 15
participation in club activities, exhibitions, tours, parades, and 16

similar uses, but in no event is used for general transportation. 17
18

(B) In lieu of the annual license tax levied in sections 19
4503.02 and 4503.04 of the Revised Code, a license fee of ten 20
dollars is levied on the operation of ~~an~~ a historical motor 21
vehicle. 22

(C) A person who owns ~~an~~ a historical motor vehicle and 23
applies for a historical license ~~plates~~ plate under this section 24
shall execute an affidavit that the vehicle for which ~~plates~~ are 25
the plate is requested is owned and operated solely for the 26
purposes enumerated in division (A) of this section, ~~and. The~~ 27
affidavit also setting forth ~~in the affidavit~~ that the 28
vehicle has been inspected and found safe to operate on the public 29
roads and highways in the state. A person who owns ~~an~~ a historical 30
motor vehicle and desires to display a model year license ~~plates~~ 31
plate on the vehicle as permitted by this section shall execute at 32
the time of registration an affidavit setting forth that the model 33
year license ~~plates~~ plate the person desires to display on the 34
person's historical motor vehicle ~~are~~ is a legible and serviceable 35
license ~~plates~~ plate that originally ~~were~~ was issued by this 36
state. No registration issued pursuant to this section need 37
specify the weight of the vehicle. 38

(D) A vehicle registered under this section may display 39
either a historical vehicle license ~~plates~~ plate issued by the 40
registrar of motor vehicles or a model year license ~~plates~~ plate 41
procured by the applicant. ~~Historical~~ A historical vehicle license 42
~~plates~~ plate shall not bear a date, but shall bear the inscription 43
"Historical Vehicle--Ohio" and the registration number, which 44
shall be shown thereon. ~~Model~~ A model year license ~~plates~~ plate 45
shall be a legible and serviceable license ~~plates~~ plate issued by 46
this state and inscribed with the date of the year corresponding 47
to the model year when the vehicle was manufactured. 48

~~Notwithstanding section 4503.21 of the Revised Code, only one~~ Two 49
~~model year license plate is required to~~ plates, duplicates of each 50
~~other, may~~ be displayed on ~~the rear of~~ the historical motor 51
vehicle at ~~all times~~ any time, one plate on the front and one 52
plate on the rear of the vehicle. The registration certificate and 53
the historical vehicle license ~~plates~~ plate issued by the 54
registrar shall be kept in the vehicle at all times the vehicle is 55
operated on the public roads and highways in this state. 56

Notwithstanding section 4503.21 of the Revised Code, the 57
owner of ~~an~~ a historical motor vehicle that was manufactured for 58
military purposes and that is registered under this section may 59
display the assigned registration number of the vehicle by 60
painting the number on the front and rear of the vehicle. The 61
number shall be painted, in accordance with the size and style 62
specifications established for numerals and letters shown on 63
license plates in section 4503.22 of the Revised Code, in a color 64
that contrasts clearly with the color of the vehicle, and shall be 65
legible and visible at all times. Upon application for 66
registration under this section and payment of the license fee 67
prescribed in division (B) of this section, the owner of such ~~an~~ a 68
historical motor vehicle shall be issued a historical vehicle 69
license ~~plates~~ plate. The registration certificate and ~~at least~~ 70
~~one such~~ the license plate shall be kept in the vehicle at all 71
times the vehicle is operated on the public roads and highways in 72
this state. If ownership of such a vehicle is transferred, the 73
transferor shall surrender the historical vehicle license ~~plates~~ 74
plate or transfer ~~them~~ it to another historical motor vehicle the 75
transferor owns, and remove or obliterate the registration numbers 76
painted on the vehicle. 77

(E) Historical vehicle and model year license plates are 78
valid without renewal as long as the vehicle for which they were 79
issued or procured is in existence. ~~Historical~~ A historical 80

vehicle ~~plates are~~ plate is issued for the owner's use only for 81
such vehicle unless later transferred to another historical motor 82
vehicle owned by that person. In order to effect such a transfer, 83
the owner of the historical motor vehicle that originally 84
displayed the historical vehicle ~~plates~~ plate shall comply with 85
division (C) of this section. In the event of a transfer of title, 86
the transferor shall surrender the historical vehicle license 87
~~plates~~ plate or transfer ~~them~~ it to another historical motor 88
vehicle owned by the transferor, but a model year license plate 89
or plates may be retained by the transferor. The registrar may 90
revoke license plates issued under this section, for cause shown 91
and after hearing, for failure of the applicant to comply with 92
this section. Upon revocation, a historical vehicle license ~~plates~~ 93
plate shall be surrendered; a model year license plate or plates 94
may be retained, but the plate or plates are no longer ~~are~~ valid 95
for display on the vehicle. 96

(F) The owner of ~~an~~ a historical motor vehicle bearing a 97
historical vehicle license ~~plates~~ plate may replace ~~them~~ it with a 98
model year license ~~plates~~ plate by surrendering the historical 99
vehicle license ~~plates~~ plate and motor vehicle certificate of 100
registration to the registrar. The owner, at the time of 101
registration, shall execute an affidavit setting forth that the 102
model year ~~plates are~~ plate is a legible and serviceable license 103
~~plates~~ plate that originally ~~were~~ was issued by this state. Such 104
an owner is required to pay the license fee prescribed by division 105
(B) of this section, but the owner is not required to have the 106
historical motor vehicle reinspected under division (C) of this 107
section. 108

A person who owns ~~an~~ a historical motor vehicle bearing a 109
model year license ~~plates~~ plate may replace ~~them~~ it with a 110
historical vehicle license ~~plates~~ plate by surrendering the motor 111
vehicle certificate of registration and applying for issuance of a 112

historical vehicle license ~~plates~~ plate. Such a person is required 113
to pay the license fee prescribed by division (B) of this section, 114
but the person is not required to have the historical motor 115
vehicle reinspected under division (C) of this section. 116

Sec. 4503.19. (A) Upon the filing of an application for 117
registration and the payment of the tax for registration, the 118
registrar of motor vehicles or a deputy registrar shall determine 119
whether the owner previously has been issued a license plates 120
plate for the motor vehicle described in the application. If no 121
license ~~plates~~ plate previously ~~have~~ has been issued to the owner 122
for that motor vehicle, the registrar or deputy registrar shall 123
assign to the motor vehicle a distinctive number and issue and 124
deliver to the owner in the manner that the registrar may select a 125
certificate of registration, in the form that the registrar shall 126
prescribe, and, ~~except as otherwise provided in this section, two~~ 127
a license plates, duplicates of each other, plate and a validation 128
sticker, or a validation sticker alone, to be attached to the 129
~~number plates~~ license plate as provided in section 4503.191 of the 130
Revised Code. The registrar or deputy registrar also shall charge 131
the owner any fees required under division (C) of section 4503.10 132
of the Revised Code. ~~Trailers, manufactured homes, mobile homes,~~ 133
~~semitrailers, the manufacturer thereof, the dealer, or in transit~~ 134
~~companies therein, shall be issued one license plate only and one~~ 135
~~validation sticker, or a validation sticker alone, and the~~ 136

The license plate and validation sticker shall be displayed 137
~~only~~ on the rear of ~~such vehicles. A~~ the vehicle. However, a 138
commercial tractor ~~that does not receive an apportioned license~~ 139
~~plate under the international registration plan shall be issued~~ 140
~~two~~ display the license plates plate and ~~one~~ validation sticker, 141
~~and the validation sticker shall be displayed~~ on the front of the 142
commercial tractor. ~~An apportioned vehicle receiving an~~ 143
~~apportioned license plate under the international registration~~ 144

~~plan shall be issued one license plate only and one validation sticker, or a validation sticker alone; the license plate shall be displayed only on the front of a semitractor and on the rear of all other vehicles.~~ School buses shall not be issued a license plates plate but shall bear identifying numbers in the manner prescribed by section 4511.764 of the Revised Code. The certificate of registration and license ~~plates~~ plate and validation ~~stickers~~ sticker, or validation ~~stickers~~ sticker alone, shall be issued and delivered to the owner in person or by mail. Chauffeured limousines shall be issued a license plates plate, a validation sticker, and a livery sticker as provided in section 4503.24 of the Revised Code. ~~In~~

In the event of the loss, mutilation, or destruction of any certificate of registration, or of any license ~~plates~~ plate or validation ~~stickers~~ sticker, or if the owner chooses to replace the license ~~plates~~ plate previously issued for a motor vehicle, or if the registration certificate and license ~~plates~~ plate have been impounded as provided by division (B)(1) of section 4507.02 and section 4507.16 of the Revised Code, the owner of a motor vehicle, or manufacturer or dealer, may obtain from the registrar, or from a deputy registrar if authorized by the registrar, a duplicate thereof or a new license ~~plates~~ plate bearing a different number, if the registrar considers it advisable, upon filing an application prescribed by the registrar, and upon paying a fee of one dollar for such certificate of registration, which one dollar fee shall be deposited into the state treasury to the credit of the state bureau of motor vehicles fund created in section 4501.25 of the Revised Code. ~~Commencing~~

Commencing with each request made on or after October 1, 2009, or in conjunction with a replacement license ~~plates~~ plate issued for renewal registrations expiring on or after October 1, 2009, a fee of ~~seven dollars and fifty cents for each set of two~~

~~license plates or~~ six dollars and fifty cents for each ~~single~~ 177
license plate or validation sticker shall be charged and 178
collected, ~~of which the~~. The registrar shall deposit five dollars 179
and fifty cents of each ~~seven dollar and fifty cent fee or each~~ 180
six dollar and fifty cent fee into the state treasury to the 181
credit of the state highway safety fund created in section 4501.06 182
of the Revised Code and the remaining portion of each such fee 183
into the state treasury to the credit of the state bureau of motor 184
vehicles fund created in section 4501.25 of the Revised Code. In 185
addition, each applicant for a replacement certificate of 186
registration, license plate, or validation sticker shall pay the 187
fees provided in divisions (C) and (D) of section 4503.10 of the 188
Revised Code. 189

Additionally, the registrar and each deputy registrar who 190
either issues ~~a license plates~~ plate and a validation sticker for 191
use on any vehicle other than a commercial tractor, semitrailer, 192
or apportioned vehicle, or who issues a validation sticker alone 193
for use on such a vehicle and the owner has changed the owner's 194
county of residence since the owner last was issued county 195
identification stickers, also shall issue and deliver to the owner 196
~~either one or two~~ a county identification ~~stickers~~, ~~as appropriate~~ 197
sticker, which shall be attached to the license ~~plates~~ plate in a 198
manner prescribed by the director of public safety. The county 199
identification ~~stickers~~ sticker shall identify prominently by name 200
or number the county in which the owner of the vehicle resides at 201
the time of registration. 202

(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor 203
misdemeanor. 204

Sec. 4503.192. The display of a single current license plate 205
and validation sticker on the rear of a motor vehicle sufficiently 206
indicates that the vehicle is registered in this state. Any 207

reference in the Revised Code to license plates, a set of license 208
plates, registration plates, or validation stickers is deemed to 209
be a reference to the single license plate and validation sticker 210
required by section 4503.19 of the Revised Code. 211

Sec. 4503.21. (A) No person who is the owner or operator of a 212
motor vehicle shall fail to display in plain view on the ~~front and~~ 213
rear of the motor vehicle the distinctive number and registration 214
mark, including any county identification sticker and any 215
validation sticker issued under sections 4503.19 and 4503.191 of 216
the Revised Code, furnished by the director of public safety, 217
~~except that a manufacturer of motor vehicles or dealer therein,~~ 218
~~the holder of an in transit permit, and the owner or operator of a~~ 219
~~motorcycle, motorized bicycle, manufactured home, mobile home,~~ 220
~~trailer, or semitrailer shall display on the rear only. A motor~~ 221
~~vehicle that is issued two license plates shall display the~~ 222
~~validation sticker only on the rear license plate, except that a~~ 223
~~commercial tractor that does not receive an apportioned license~~ 224
~~plate under the international registration plan shall display the~~ 225
license plate and validation sticker on the front of the 226
commercial tractor. ~~An apportioned vehicle receiving an~~ 227
~~apportioned license plate under the international registration~~ 228
~~plan shall display the license plate only on the front of a~~ 229
~~commercial tractor and on the rear of all other vehicles. All The~~ 230
license ~~plates~~ plate shall be securely fastened so as not to 231
swing, and shall not be covered by any material that obstructs 232
~~their~~ its visibility. 233

No person to whom a temporary license placard or windshield 234
sticker has been issued for the use of a motor vehicle under 235
section 4503.182 of the Revised Code, and no operator of that 236
motor vehicle, shall fail to display the temporary license placard 237
in plain view from the rear of the vehicle either in the rear 238
window or on an external rear surface of the motor vehicle, or 239

fail to display the windshield sticker in plain view on the rear 240
window of the motor vehicle. No temporary license placard or 241
windshield sticker shall be covered by any material that obstructs 242
its visibility. 243

(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor 244
misdemeanor. 245

Sec. 4503.23. No motor vehicle designed to carry passengers, 246
owned or leased by the state, or any of its departments, bureaus, 247
commissions, or institutions supported in whole or in part by 248
funds provided by the state, shall be operated or driven by any 249
person unless it has displayed, in a prominent position on ~~both~~ 250
the ~~front and~~ rear of the vehicle, ~~identification plates which a~~ 251
license plate that shall be the same size, shape, and treated for 252
increased visibility in the same manner as those issued by the 253
registrar of motor vehicles for private vehicles. ~~Such~~ 254
~~identification plates~~ The license plate shall be attached to the 255
vehicle in the same manner as provided by statute for the 256
illumination and attachment of a license plates plate on private 257
vehicles. The registrar shall designate the colors of the license 258
~~tags which~~ plate that shall be used on state-owned cars; ~~such the~~ 259
colors shall be other than those used on privately owned motor 260
vehicles, and shall apply only to license plates used on 261
state-owned motor vehicles. ~~Said plates~~ The plate shall bear a 262
special serial number, and the words "Ohio State Car." 263

Sec. 4549.10. (A) No person shall operate or cause to be 264
operated upon a public road or highway a motor vehicle of a 265
manufacturer or dealer unless the vehicle carries and displays ~~two~~ 266
~~placards~~ a placard, except as provided in section 4503.21 of the 267
Revised Code, issued by the director of public safety that ~~bear~~ 268
bears the registration number of its manufacturer or dealer. 269

(B) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty 270
of illegal operation of a manufacturer's or dealer's motor 271
vehicle, a minor misdemeanor. 272

Section 2. That existing sections 4503.181, 4503.19, 4503.21, 273
4503.23, and 4549.10 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 274

Section 3. That the version of section 4503.21 of the Revised 275
Code that is scheduled to take effect January 1, 2017, be amended 276
to read as follows: 277

Sec. 4503.21. (A) No person who is the owner or operator of a 278
motor vehicle shall fail to display in plain view on the ~~front and~~ 279
rear of the motor vehicle the distinctive number and registration 280
mark, including any county identification sticker and any 281
validation sticker issued under sections 4503.19 and 4503.191 of 282
the Revised Code, furnished by the director of public safety, 283
~~except that a manufacturer of motor vehicles or dealer therein,~~ 284
~~the holder of an in transit permit, and the owner or operator of a~~ 285
~~motorcycle, motorized bicycle or moped, motor-driven cycle or~~ 286
~~motor scooter, cab enclosed motorcycle, manufactured home, mobile~~ 287
~~home, trailer, or semitrailer shall display on the rear only. A~~ 288
~~motor vehicle that is issued two license plates shall display the~~ 289
~~validation sticker only on the rear license plate, except that a~~ 290
~~commercial tractor that does not receive an apportioned license~~ 291
~~plate under the international registration plan shall display the~~ 292
license plate and validation sticker on the front of the 293
commercial tractor. ~~An apportioned vehicle receiving an~~ 294
~~apportioned license plate under the international registration~~ 295
~~plan shall display the license plate only on the front of a~~ 296
~~commercial tractor and on the rear of all other vehicles. All The~~ 297
license ~~plates~~ plate shall be securely fastened so as not to 298
swing, and shall not be covered by any material that obstructs 299

~~their~~ its visibility. 300

No person to whom a temporary license placard or windshield 301
sticker has been issued for the use of a motor vehicle under 302
section 4503.182 of the Revised Code, and no operator of that 303
motor vehicle, shall fail to display the temporary license placard 304
in plain view from the rear of the vehicle either in the rear 305
window or on an external rear surface of the motor vehicle, or 306
fail to display the windshield sticker in plain view on the rear 307
window of the motor vehicle. No temporary license placard or 308
windshield sticker shall be covered by any material that obstructs 309
its visibility. 310

(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor 311
misdemeanor. 312

Section 4. That the existing version of section 4503.21 of 313
the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect January 1, 2017, 314
is hereby repealed. 315

Section 5. Sections 3 and 4 of this act shall take effect 316
January 1, 2017. 317