



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

Joseph G. Aninao

H.B. 69

128th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Dodd, Phillips, Pryor, Harris, Letson, Newcomb, Luckie, Hagan, Harwood, Chandler, DeGeeter, Mecklenborg, Domenick, Oelslager, Yuko

BILL SUMMARY

- Creates the "Ohio Nature Preserves" license plate and requires the Department of Natural Resources to use contributions that persons pay when obtaining the license plate to help finance nature preserve education, nature preserve clean-up projects, and nature preserve maintenance, protection, and restoration.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

"Ohio Nature Preserves" License Plate and the Ohio Nature Preserves Fund

Under the bill, the owner or lessee of any passenger car, noncommercial motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, or other vehicle of a class approved by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles may apply to the Registrar for the registration of the vehicle and issuance of "Ohio Nature Preserves" license plates. The application for "Ohio Nature Preserves" license plates may be combined with a request for a special reserved license plate provided in current law. Upon receipt of the completed application and compliance with the bill's requirements, the Registrar is required to issue to the applicant the appropriate vehicle registration and a set of "Ohio Nature Preserves" license plates with a validation sticker, or a validation sticker alone when required by current law.

In addition to the letters and numbers ordinarily inscribed on license plates, "Ohio Nature Preserves" license plates must be inscribed with identifying words or markings designed by the Department of Natural Resources and approved by the Registrar. "Ohio Nature Preserves" license plates must bear county identification stickers that identify the county of registration by name or number. (R.C. 4503.563(A).)

"Ohio Nature Preserves" license plates and validation stickers are issued upon payment of a contribution (see below), the regular taxes prescribed in current law, any applicable local motor vehicle tax, a Bureau of Motor Vehicles administrative fee of \$10, and the applicant's compliance with all other applicable laws relating to the registration of motor vehicles. If the application for "Ohio Nature Preserves" license plates is combined with a request for a special reserved license plate provided in current law, the applicant must also pay the applicable additional special reserved license plate fee. (R.C. 4503.563(B).)

For each application for registration and registration renewal received under the bill, the Registrar is required to collect a contribution in an amount not to exceed \$40, as determined by the Department of Natural Resources. The Registrar must transmit the contribution to the Treasurer of State for deposit into the Ohio Nature Preserves Fund, which the bill creates. The Fund consists of the contributions that are paid by persons who obtain "Ohio Nature Preserves" license plates. The bill requires the Department to use that money to help finance nature preserve education, nature preserve clean-up projects, and nature preserve maintenance, protection, and restoration. All investment earnings of the Fund must be credited to the Fund. (R.C. 4501.243 and 4503.563(C).) The bill requires the Registrar to deposit the \$10 BMV administrative fee, the purpose of which is to compensate the BMV for additional services required in issuing "Ohio Nature Preserves" license plates, into the State Bureau of Motor Vehicles Fund (R.C. 4503.563(C)).

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	03-10-09

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