



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

Joseph G. Aninao

H.B. 126

129th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Grossman, Gonzales

BILL SUMMARY

- Requires every person who applies for a new or renewal driver's or commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, motorcycle operator's license or endorsement, or identification card to be furnished with a form for listing contact persons for inclusion in the next of kin database of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

The bill requires every person who applies to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles or a deputy registrar for a new or renewal driver's or commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, motorcycle operator's license or endorsement, or identification card to be furnished with a next of kin information form on which the applicant may list the name, address, telephone number, and relationship to the applicant of at least one contact person for inclusion in the next of kin database of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV). The contact person is the person whom the applicant wishes to be contacted if the applicant is involved in a motor vehicle accident or emergency situation and the applicant dies or is seriously injured or rendered unconscious and is unable to communicate with the contact person.

The form must inform the applicant that, after completing the form, the applicant may return the form to the Registrar or any deputy registrar, who will accept it without charge. The form also must contain (1) an address to which the completed form may be mailed, and (2) instructions whereby the applicant may furnish the information to the

Registrar via the Internet.¹ The bill requires the BMV to adopt a rule specifying the contents of the form.²

The bill stands in contrast to the current Revised Code provision, which provides that an individual holding a valid Ohio driver's or commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, or identification card (holders of motorcycle operator's licenses and endorsements are not included) "must be afforded the opportunity to list" emergency contact persons for inclusion in the BMV next of kin database.³ The relevant administrative rule includes not only holders of driver's and commercial driver's licenses, temporary instruction permits, motorcycle operator's licenses, and identification cards, but also holders of motorized bicycle operator's licenses.⁴

HISTORY

| ACTION | DATE |
|------------|----------|
| Introduced | 03-01-11 |

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¹ R.C. 4501.81(B).

² R.C. 4501.81(C)(2).

³ R.C. 4501.81(B).

⁴ Ohio Administrative Code 4501:1-1-40(B).