



## **H.B. 107**

125th General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

**Reps. Schneider, Cates**

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### **BILL SUMMARY**

- Requires the Registrar and deputy registrars to accept charge cards, credit cards, debit cards, and prepaid or stored value cards for all their transactions.
- Eliminates the delayed implementation date (January 1, 2004) of provisions of the transportation budget act requiring the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to adopt rules permitting the owners of noncommercial vehicles to register their vehicles on a biennial basis.
- Provides that when a person registers a vehicle on a biennial basis, the person must pay the full applicable Bureau of Motor Vehicles or deputy registrar service fee for each year of registration, rather than 150% of such fee as required by provisions of law that will be implemented on January 1, 2004.

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### **CONTENT AND OPERATION**

#### **Payment of taxes and fees by means of a financial transaction device**

Pursuant to a general provision of the Revised Code, the Registrar is *authorized* to implement a program permitting payment of motor vehicle registration taxes and fees, driver's license and commercial driver's license fees, and any other taxes, fees, penalties, or charges imposed or levied by the state by means of a financial transaction device.<sup>1</sup> The Registrar may adopt any rules necessary for this purpose. (R.C. 4503.102(H).)

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<sup>1</sup> The general provision is R.C. 113.40. "Financial transaction device" is defined to include "a credit card, debit card, charge card, or prepaid or stored value card." R.C. 113.40(A)(1).

The bill eliminates this permissive provision and *requires* the Registrar and each deputy registrar to accept payment by means of a financial transaction device for motor vehicle registration taxes and fees, driver's license and commercial driver's license fees, and any other taxes, fees, penalties, or charges that are payable to the state through the BMV. The Registrar is required to adopt rules as necessary for this purpose. (R.C. 4501.026.)

**Voluntary biennial registration for noncommercial motor vehicles**

Am. Sub. H.B. 87 of the 125th General Assembly (the transportation budget act) was signed into law on March 31, 2003, which was after H.B. 107 was introduced. That act requires the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to adopt rules to permit any person, other than a person receiving an apportioned license plate for commercial vehicles under the International Registration Plan, to file an application for registration for the next two succeeding registration years, but delays operation of this biennial registration option until January 1, 2004.

Under the transportation budget act, at the time of application, the person must pay the annual taxes and specified fees, provided that the taxes may be prorated. A person who is registering a vehicle under the voluntary biennial registration provisions also must pay 150% of the applicable deputy registrar service fee or Bureau of Motor Vehicles service fee (\$3.25 through December 31, 2003, and \$3.50 thereafter). (R.C. 4503.103(A)(1)(b).)

Additionally, in regard to the motor vehicle inspection and maintenance program ("E-Check"), if an owner's vehicle is subject to E-Check and the owner has voluntarily chosen to register the vehicle biennially, Am. Sub. H.B. 87 requires the owner to have the vehicle inspected annually or biennially, as applicable, in accordance with rules adopted by the Director of Environmental Protection. (R.C. 3704.14(B)(20) and (F)(1).)

H.B. 107 contains biennial registration provisions that are almost identical to those contained in the transportation budget act. One difference is that under the transportation budget act, a person who registers a vehicle under the biennial registration plan pays 150% of the applicable Bureau of Motor Vehicles or deputy registrar service fee; under H.B. 107, the person would pay the full service fee for each year of registration. The other difference is that the transportation budget act delays operation of the biennial registration program until January 1, 2004. H.B. 107 contains no such delayed implementation date.

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## HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	03-06-03	p. 213

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