



## **H.B. 124**

125th General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

**Reps. Boccieri, Carano, Ujvagi, Seitz, Hagan, Cirelli**

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### **BILL SUMMARY**

- Subjects trailers and semitrailers to motor vehicle certificate of title requirements, irrespective of the weight of the trailer or semitrailer.

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### **CONTENT AND OPERATION**

In general, a certificate of title is used to evidence motor vehicle ownership. A certificate of title is required to transfer the ownership of a motor vehicle and generally must be presented to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles or a deputy registrar the first time that a motor vehicle is registered in a new owner's name (secs. 4505.03 and 4503.10, not in the bill). Existing law exempts trailers and semitrailers whose weight is 4,000 pounds or less from the certificate of title requirements by expressly including only those trailers and semitrailers whose weight exceeds 4,000 pounds in the governing definition of a "motor vehicle" (sec. 4505.01(A)(2)). The bill eliminates the trailer and semitrailer weight restriction from the definition of "motor vehicle" thereby subjecting trailers and semitrailers to the certificate of title requirements irrespective of the weight of these vehicles. (See **COMMENT.**)

The bill provides that notwithstanding the general certificate of title application provisions, if a certificate of title previously has not been issued for a trailer whose weight is 4,000 pounds or less, the application for a certificate of title must be accompanied by a manufacturer's or importer's certificate; by a sworn statement of ownership; or by a certificate of title, bill of sale, or other evidence of ownership required by law of another state from which the trailer was brought into this state. The Registrar of Motor Vehicles, in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, must prescribe the form of the sworn statement of ownership and the types of additional documentation sufficient to establish proof of ownership, including, but not limited to, receipts from the purchase of parts or components, photographs, and affidavits of other persons. (Sec. 4505.063.)

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## COMMENT

This definition of "motor vehicle" and the changes effected by the bill also apply to Chapter 4503. of the Revised Code, governing motor vehicle registration (license plate) requirements (sec. 4503.01, not in the bill).

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## HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	03-12-03	p. 229

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