



H.B. 230
125th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Rep. Reinhard

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Introduction

The bill contains mainly administrative and procedural changes for the Department of Public Safety. Major new provisions include:

(1) Trailers and semitrailers weighting less than 4,000 pounds are expressly made subject to the registration tax.

(2) The "Performance Registration and Information Systems Management Program (PRISM)" is created within the Bureau of Motor Vehicles for the purpose of coordinating motor carrier safety information with federal and state agencies. The Registrar is required to collect and maintain necessary motor carrier, commercial motor vehicle, and driver data in compliance with federal law.

(3) Four points are assessed against the driver's license of a person who pleads guilty to or is convicted of the state offense of having physical control of a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs or a comparable municipal ordinance.

(4) The Superintendent of the State Highway Patrol is required to adopt rules governing the use of electronic clearance devices by commercial motor vehicles that permit these vehicles to bypass a scale location.

To facilitate the use of the analysis in conjunction with reading the bill, this analysis is organized by Revised Code chapter and section.

PEACE OFFICER TRAINING	
R.C. §	Description of provision
109.801	Requires special police officers of the Highway Patrol and enforcement agents of the Department of Public Safety (liquor and food stamp agents) to complete firearms requalification every year. ¹

WATERCRAFT CERTIFICATE OF TITLE LAW	
R.C. §	Description of provision
1548.06	Allows the Chief of the Division of Watercraft to designate a location to receive title documents, rather than having the vendor send the documents to the clerk of courts.
1548.09	Allows the Chief of the Division of Watercraft to determine the form of a physical certificate of title for watercraft and outboard motors and also the manner in which the title is issued.
1548.13	Allows a watercraft or outboard motor owner to apply for a non-negotiable evidence of ownership, regardless of whether the person previously had been issued an electronic certificate of title as is required under current law. ²

DRIVERS LICENSE SUSPENSION PROVISIONS, MINOR TRAFFIC OFFENSES	
R.C. §	Description of provision
2935.27	Provides that if a person charged with a minor misdemeanor traffic offense fails either to appear in court at the required time and place to plead guilty to the charge and pay the fine, or to comply with or satisfy the judgment of the court within the time allowed, the court must declare the <i>forfeiture</i> of the person's driver's license, rather than the <i>suspension</i> of the person's license as required by current law.

¹ This codifies a current departmental requirement of the Department of Public Safety.

² Current law requires an electronic certificate of title to be issued for a watercraft or outboard motor before the owner can obtain a non-negotiable evidence of ownership. The bill allows a person who holds a physical certificate of title to also obtain non-negotiable evidence. Non-negotiable evidence is a document indicating ownership that cannot be transferred to another person.

DRIVERS LICENSE SUSPENSION PROVISIONS, MINOR TRAFFIC OFFENSES	
R.C. §	Description of provision
	Prohibits the Registrar from restoring the person's driving or vehicle registration privileges until the person pays the required \$15 reinstatement fee.
2937.221	Provides that if a person who is charged with a minor misdemeanor traffic offense posts the person's driver's or commercial driver's license as bond and then fails either to appear in court at the required date and time or to satisfy the judgment of the court, the court <i>may</i> declare the forfeiture of the person's driver's license, rather than the suspension of the person's license as permitted by current law. Prohibits the Registrar from restoring the person's driving or vehicle registration privileges until the person pays the required reinstatement fee.

MOTOR VEHICLES--GENERAL PROVISIONS	
R.C. §	Description of provision
4501.01	Updates a cross-reference.
4501.02	Permits the Registrar to establish accounts in a bank or depository and deposit in those accounts to the credit of "State of Ohio, Bureau of Motor Vehicles" any funds the Registrar collects.
4501.021 (NEW)	Gives the Registrar authority to determine how license, ID card, and registration records will be collected, stored, and maintained, notwithstanding the state records retention law.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION LAW	
R.C. §	Description of provision
4503.01	Expressly includes trailers and semitrailers weighing less than 4,000 pounds within the scope of motor vehicles subject to the registration tax in order to receive a license plate.
4503.03	Makes permanent the authority of the Registrar to appoint clerks of courts as deputy registrars in counties with a population of less than 40,000 persons. This authority currently expires October 31, 2004. Changes the expiration of deputy registrar contracts from June 30 to the last Saturday in June.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION LAW	
R.C. §	Description of provision
	Eliminates the requirement for the Auditor of State to examine the records of a deputy registrar who has been removed for a contract violation.
4503.034	Updates cross-references to those Revised Code sections authorizing deputy registrars to collect a service fee. (See R.C. 4503.24 and 4519.05.)
4503.04	Updates vehicle registration tax language by removing apportioned commercial vehicles that have their taxes established in another Revised Code section.
4503.041	Allows the operator of a trailer weighing less than 4,000 pounds to pull the trailer to a scale facility to determine its weight <i>before</i> registration under certain conditions. ³
4503.042	Increases the administrative fee charged by the Registrar for registration of apportioned commercial motor vehicles in accordance with previously established increases in deputy registrar service fees. ⁴
4503.10	In regard to an application for a motor vehicle registration, revises the list of features required to be included in the description of the motor vehicle being registered.
4503.12	Allows the transfer of a vehicle registration and license plates if the vehicle ownership is transferred to an affiliated company. Simplifies the statutory structure and language.
4503.24	Allows deputy registrars to process registrations for chauffeured limousines and to collect the standard service fee for the transaction. ⁵
4503.44	In regard to handicapped windshield parking placards and temporary placards, eliminates the need for a physician to fill out a signed statement certifying that an applicant meets the criteria

³ Normally a vehicle that must be registered and display a license plate or plates cannot be operated or taken on the public roads until these steps have occurred.

⁴ When a deputy registrar performs a transaction, such as issuing license plates or renewing a driver's license, the deputy may charge and retain a service fee of \$3.25. If a person goes to an office of the BMV for a transaction, the BMV may charge and retain an identical service fee. This service fee will increase to \$3.50 per transaction effective January 1, 2004.

⁵ Currently only the Registrar may process these registrations.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION LAW	
R.C. §	Description of provision
	for the placard, but retains the requirement that an applicant have a prescription prescribing the placard.
4503.642 (NEW)	Creates the "Performance Registration and Information Systems Management" (PRISM) program in the Bureau of Motor Vehicles and allows the Registrar to use this program to suspend or deny motor vehicle registrations, license plates, permits, or certificates of title if a motor carrier has been prohibited from operating by a federal agency. (Complies with a federal mandate.) Authorizes an administrative hearing for persons adversely affected by the suspension or denial, but limits the hearing to the issues of whether the person is correctly identified, whether the person has been prohibited from operating by the federal agency, and whether the federal agency has rescinded its prohibition.

MOTOR VEHICLE CERTIFICATE OF TITLE LAW	
R.C. §	Description of provision
4505.06	Requires an electronic motor vehicle dealer to send original documents to a location designated by the Registrar, rather than to a clerk of courts. ⁶ Requires the Registrar to determine the location where the original documents will be stored and allows the Registrar to make the determination by rule. Requires an application for certificate of title to be filed within 30 days after <i>the later of</i> the assignment of the certificate of title or delivery of the motor vehicle. Updates a United States Code citation.
4505.08	Requires a clerk of courts to issue a physical certificate of title on a form and in a manner prescribed by the Registrar and to file a copy of the physical certificate in a manner prescribed by the Registrar. ⁷

⁶ *Am. Sub. H.B. 95 of the 125th General Assembly, effective June 30, 2003, eliminated the language in this section that read "The electronic motor vehicle dealer shall forward the actual application and all other documents relating to the sale of the motor vehicle to any clerk within thirty days after the certificate of title is issued."*

⁷ *Currently, when a clerk issues a physical certificate of title, the clerk must issue it in duplicate and retain one copy and file it in the clerk's office.*

MOTOR VEHICLE CERTIFICATE OF TITLE LAW	
R.C. §	Description of provision
	<p>Eliminates authority for a clerk of courts to destroy the electronic record of an electronic certificate of title 7 years after its filing.</p> <p>Requires the automated title processing system to contain (1) all active records, (2) an index of the active records, and (3) a record and index of all inactive titles for 10 years, and a record and index of all inactive titles for manufactured and mobile homes for 30 years.</p> <p>Specifies that a written copy of information in the database that a clerk of courts provides must be considered the original for any legal proceeding.</p> <p>Allows a motor vehicle owner to apply for a non-negotiable evidence of ownership, regardless of whether the person previously had been issued an electronic certificate of title as is required under current law. (Same as the watercraft title provision in R.C. 1548.13.)</p>
4505.09	<p>In regard to the current fee imposed for failing to file an application for a certificate of title when required, specifies that the clerk of court must charge the \$5 late fee if an application for certificate of title is not filed within 30 days after <i>the later of</i> the assignment of the certificate of title or delivery of the motor vehicle.</p> <p>Specifically provides that the purpose of the existing Automated Title Processing Board is to "facilitate the operation and maintenance of an automated title processing system."</p> <p>Eliminates the authority for a county issuing more than 100,000 certificates of title annually, with the approval of the Registrar, to purchase and maintain an automated title processing system with the cost of the county system paid from the Automated Processing Title Fund.</p>
4505.10	<p>Allows an applicant for a certificate of title to petition the court of common pleas for an order directing the clerk of courts to issue the certificate if ownership of the motor vehicle was transferred by operation of law but the applicant was unable to produce either proof of ownership to the clerk of courts or sufficient evidence to the Registrar.</p>
4505.11	<p>Removes the requirement for a salvage certificate of title and a certificate of title marked "REBUILT SALVAGE" to bear the same <i>number</i> as the original certificate of title, but retains the requirement for the salvage certificate to bear the same <i>information</i> as the original certificate.</p>

MOTOR VEHICLE CERTIFICATE OF TITLE LAW	
R.C. §	Description of provision
	Allows an insurance company to send the original certificate of title marked "for destruction" to any clerk of courts rather than only to the clerk of the county where the salvage dealer being assigned the title is located.
4505.13	Eliminates the requirement that a clerk of court note the cancellation of a security interest upon the clerk's records, but retains the requirement that the cancellation be noted on the face of the certificate and in the automated title processing system.
4505.141	Retains the requirement that the Registrar enable public access to motor vehicle title information by electronic means, but allows, rather than requires, the procedures to be established by rule. Presumably the Registrar can change the procedure for public access by means other than changing rules.

COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE (CDL) LAW	
R.C. §	Description of provision
4506.01	Provides that a "tank vehicle" does not include (1) an empty storage container that is not designed for transportation and that is readily distinguishable from a transportation tank, or (2) ready-mix concrete mixers. ⁸
4506.08	Reduces the fee for a CDL abstract of a driving record from \$3 to \$2.
4506.11	Removes blood type from the list of information appearing on a CDL.
4506.12	Provides that in addition to any endorsement that otherwise may apply, a person who is engaged in the <i>towing</i> of a disabled or wrecked motor vehicle must hold a CDL bearing any endorsement required to drive the towed vehicle, except that the driver is not required to have either (1) a passenger endorsement to tow an unoccupied passenger car, or (2) any endorsement required for the wrecked or disabled vehicle when the driver initially removes a vehicle from the site of an emergency where the vehicle became wrecked or disabled to the nearest appropriate repair, disposal, or storage facility.

⁸ *To operate a commercial tractor that is pulling a "tank vehicle," a special CDL endorsement is required.*

DRIVER'S LICENSE LAW	
R.C. §	Description of provision
4507.13	Removes blood type from the list of information appearing on a driver's license. ⁹
4507.141	Eliminates the \$5 fee for issuance of a card identifying a person as hearing-impaired.
4507.1614 (NEW)	Provides that, when the law requires the Registrar to suspend the probationary license or temporary instruction permit of a person who commits certain violations prior to reaching 18 years of age, the suspension must be imposed regardless of whether the disposition of the case in juvenile court occurred <i>after</i> the person's 18th birthday.
4507.19	Allows the Registrar to suspend or cancel any commercial driver's license or identification card that was obtained fraudulently, rather than just a driver's license as specified in current law.
4507.20	Eliminates a requirement that the Registrar order a person who has more than 7 points charged against the person's driving record to submit to either a driver's or commercial driver's license examination or a physical examination, or both. Specifies that a notice sent to a license holder requiring an examination must state the time within which the person must submit to the examination. Establishes that a physician may notify the Registrar that a driver may be incompetent or unqualified to operate safely a motor vehicle and establishes that the physician's report is confidential and not a public record.
4507.50	Eliminates obsolete language relating to the lamination of state-issued identification cards. Corrects a cross-reference.
4507.51	Removes blood type from the list of information that may appear on such identification cards.
4507.53	Allows digitalized photographic records of the Department of Public Safety to be released to any court, as well as to state, local, and federal law enforcement agencies as provided under current law.

⁹ Current law allows blood type to be displayed on a license although it currently is not being displayed.

DRIVER'S LICENSE LAW	
R.C. §	Description of provision
4507.99	Removes language from this section requiring a court to require proof of financial responsibility in connection with traffic offenses and notify the Registrar if the person fails to verify the existence of such proof; this requirement also is found in the financial responsibility law and is not affected by the bill.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY LAW	
R.C. §	Description of provision
4509.05	Authorizes the Registrar to permit deputy registrars to furnish a certified abstract of a person's driving record, ¹⁰ subject to restrictions of current law governing the disclosure of personal information. Requires a deputy registrar, when furnishing such an abstract, to collect the \$2 abstract fee and transmit it to the Registrar and allows deputies to charge and retain the standard deputy registrar service fee.
4509.101	Provides that, when a clerk of courts or a traffic violations bureau provides the Registrar with information identifying a person who failed to provide proof of financial responsibility, the information must be given to the Registrar in a manner prescribed by the Registrar. Limits the scope of an administrative hearing for a person whose license has been suspended by the Registrar for a financial responsibility violation to whether, <i>at the time of the hearing</i> , the person presents proof of financial responsibility covering the vehicle and whether the person is eligible for an exemption. Corrects a cross-reference.
4509.79	Corrects a cross-reference.

¹⁰ An abstract is a summary of certain aspects of a person's driving record, such as accidents and motor vehicle-related convictions. An employer may request the abstract of a prospective employee.

ADDITIONAL DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENSION PROVISIONS	
R.C. §	Description of provision
4510.036	Assesses four points against the driver's license of a person who pleads guilty to or is convicted of the state offense of having physical control of a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or a comparable municipal ordinance.
4510.22	Provides that if a person charged with a misdemeanor traffic offense of the first, second, third, or fourth degree fails either to appear in court at the required time and place or pleads guilty to or is found guilty of the violation and fails to pay the fine within the time allowed, the court must declare the <i>forfeiture</i> of the person's driver's license, rather than the <i>suspension</i> of the person's license. Prohibits the Registrar from restoring the person's driving or vehicle registration privileges until the person pays the required reinstatement fee.
4510.31	Requires that, when the Registrar suspends a person's probationary license or temporary instruction permit as required by current law, the suspension be imposed regardless of whether the disposition of the case in juvenile court occurred after the person's 18th birthday.
4510.43	Eliminates a provision requiring that if a motor vehicle to be driven by a person who has been granted limited driving privileges is a vehicle registered in another state, instead of installing an immobilizing or disabling device on the vehicle, the person must display on the vehicle a decal stating that the vehicle is subject to limited driving privileges in this state and describing the restriction. In such a situation, the bill requires the immobilizing or disabling device to be installed.

TRAFFIC LAWS	
R.C. §	Description of provision
4511.01	Renames the "Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Enforcement Unit" the "Motor Carrier Enforcement Unit" (see R.C. 5503.34).
4511.121 (NEW)	Requires the operator of a commercial motor vehicle, upon approaching a scale for weighing the vehicle, to comply with a traffic control device or peace officer directing the vehicle to be weighed, unless the vehicle is equipped with an authorized electronic clearance device that indicates the operator may bypass the scale.

TRAFFIC LAWS	
R.C. §	Description of provision
	<p>Authorizes a peace officer to order a commercial motor vehicle operator who bypasses a scale to stop the vehicle to verify the use of an electronic clearance device.</p> <p>Establishes that a person who improperly bypasses a scale or fails to comply with an order of a peace officer to stop for verification of an electronic clearance device is guilty of a minor misdemeanor on a first offense, a fourth degree misdemeanor on a second offense within one year, and a third degree misdemeanor on a subsequent offense within one year.</p> <p>Establishes the standards that must be present on an electronic clearance device to allow the operator of a commercial motor vehicle to bypass a scale. (See also R.C. 4549.081.)</p>

ABANDONED VEHICLE LAW	
R.C. §	Description of provision
4513.61	<p>Allows a person to reclaim a motor vehicle ordered into storage by law enforcement by presenting either a memorandum certificate of title or a certificate of title (current law requires presentation of a certificate of title).</p> <p>Requires a clerk of courts to issue a salvage certificate of title to a vehicle within 30 days of the date a motor vehicle salvage dealer presents an affidavit to the clerk indicating that a law enforcement agency is disposing of the vehicle to the salvage dealer because no owner or lienholder has claimed the vehicle after the required notice has been sent.</p>
4513.63	<p>In regard to abandoned junk motor vehicles, requires a law enforcement agency to execute an affidavit describing such a vehicle and its disposal <i>within 30 days of disposing of the vehicle</i> to a motor vehicle salvage dealer; this affidavit is filed with the clerk of courts.</p>

MOTOR VEHICLE DEALER LAW	
R.C. §	Description of provision
4517.10	<p>Establishes that all dealers' licenses, motor vehicle leasing dealers' licenses, manufactured home broker's licenses, distributors' licenses, auction owners' licenses, and salespersons' licenses expire biennially and doubles the license fees accordingly from \$25 to \$50.</p>



MOTOR VEHICLE DEALER LAW	
R.C. §	Description of provision
	Removes language requiring the return of a license fee if the dealer's, motor vehicle leasing dealer's, manufactured home broker's, distributor's, auction owner's, or salesperson's license is not granted.
4517.14	As an exception to the restriction against a salesperson acting for more than one licensed dealer, allows a licensed salesperson to act as a salesperson at any licensed dealership owned and operated by the same corporation, regardless of the county in which the facility is located. ¹¹

SPECIAL VEHICLE LAW	
R.C. §	Description of provision
4519.03	In regard to a registration application for a snowmobile, off-highway motorcycle, or all-purpose vehicle, revises the list of features required to be included in the description of the vehicle being registered.
4519.05	Authorizes the Registrar and each deputy registrar to collect a service fee at the established rate for each application for the transfer of a certificate of registration or duplicate certificate for a snowmobile, off-highway motorcycle, and all-purpose vehicle. ¹²
4519.55*	Requires the Registrar to determine the location where the original documents relating to the sale of an off-highway motorcycle or all-purpose vehicle will be stored when an electronic dealer files the application for a certificate of title electronically and allows the Registrar to make the determination by rule. ¹³

¹¹ Under current law, a dealer may operate at more than one location within a county under one dealer's license, but a dealer must obtain a separate license for each county in which the dealer does business. A salesperson is limited to working at one dealership, which must be listed on the salesperson's license application.

¹² Imposition of the service fee in these instances currently is not permitted.

* All of the changes in these sections are identical to the changes made by the bill in Chapter 4504. for regular motor vehicles.

¹³ Under current law, this determination must be made by rule.

SPECIAL VEHICLE LAW	
R.C. §	Description of provision
4519.56 [*]	<p>In regard to an application for a certificate of title for an off-highway motorcycle or all-purpose vehicle that must be physically inspected when an application for a certificate of title is filed, revises the exception for new off-highway motorcycles and all-purpose vehicles by removing a requirement that such new vehicles had to be sold by a licensed motor vehicle dealer in order to be allowed the exception from the physical inspection.</p>
4519.58 [*]	<p>Requires a clerk of courts to issue a physical certificate of title for an off-highway motorcycle or all-purpose vehicle on a form and in a manner prescribed by the Registrar and to file a copy of the physical certificate in a manner prescribed by the Registrar.</p> <p>Eliminates the authority of a clerk of courts to destroy records of an electronic certificate of title covering any off-highway motorcycle or all-purpose vehicle 7 years after its filing.</p> <p>Requires the automated title processing system to contain (1) all active records, (2) an index of the active records, (3) a record and index of all inactive titles for 10 years, and a record and index of all inactive titles for manufactured and mobile homes for 30 years.</p> <p>Specifies that a written copy of information in the database that a clerk of courts provides must be considered the original for any legal proceeding.</p> <p>Allows an off-highway motorcycle or all-purpose vehicle owner to apply for a non-negotiable evidence of ownership, regardless of whether the person previously had been issued an electronic certificate of title as is required under current law.</p>
4519.61 [*]	<p>Removes the requirement for a salvage certificate of title and a certificate of title marked "REBUILT SALVAGE" for an off-highway motorcycle or all-purpose vehicle to bear the same <i>number</i> as the original certificate of title, but retains the requirement for the salvage certificate to bear the same <i>information</i> as the original certificate.</p> <p>Allows an insurance company to send the original certificate of title for an off-highway motorcycle or all-purpose vehicle marked "for destruction" to any clerk of courts rather than only to the clerk in the county where the salvage dealer or scrap metal processing facility being assigned the title is located.</p>
4519.631 [*]	<p>Continues the requirement for the Registrar to enable public access to off-highway motorcycle and all-purpose vehicle title information by electronic means, but allows, rather than requires, the procedures to be established by rule.</p>

SPECIAL VEHICLE LAW	
R.C. §	Description of provision
4519.68	<p>Clarifies that the notation of security interests on actual certificates of title is optional. A notation of all security interests must be entered into the Automated Title Processing System (ATPS).</p> <p>Provides that if a security interest in an off-highway motorcycle or all-purpose vehicle is fully discharged as a result of its holder's receipt of good funds in the correct amount <i>and</i> if the holder holds a physical certificate of title, the holder must note the discharge of the security interest over the holder's signature on the face of the certificate of title.</p> <p>Provides that after the discharge of such a security interest, prior to delivering the certificate of title to the owner the holder or the holder's agent generally must convey the certificate of title or a separate sworn statement of the discharge of the security interest to a clerk of the court of common pleas.</p> <p>Requires this conveyance to occur not more than seven business days after the date good funds in the correct amount to discharge fully the security interest have been credited to the holder's account, provided the holder has been provided with accurate information concerning the off-highway motorcycle or all-purpose vehicle.</p> <p>Permits the conveyance of the certificate of title or sworn discharge statement to be indicated by postmark or receipt by a clerk within that period.</p> <p>Provides that if the discharge of the security interest appears to be genuine, the clerk must note the cancellation on the face of the certificate of title, if it was conveyed, and also note it in the ATPS.</p> <p>Permits a secured party to present a clerk with evidence of a security interest or the discharge of a security interest <i>via electronic means</i> in all cases involving these two types of vehicles, and requires the clerk to enter the security interest or the security interest cancellation into the ATPS.</p>

MOTOR VEHICLE CRIME	
R.C. §	Description of provision
4549.08	Corrects a cross-reference.
4549.081 (NEW)	<p>Requires the Superintendent of the State Highway Patrol to adopt rules governing the use of electronic clearance devices by commercial motor vehicles that permit such vehicles to bypass a scale location.</p> <p>Requires the rules to establish acceptable types and features of the devices, and a method for peace officers to determine whether a particular device complies with the rules.</p> <p>Prohibits the use of a nonconforming device or the nonconforming use of such a device and establishes that a person who violates this prohibition is guilty of a fourth degree misdemeanor on a first offense and a third degree misdemeanor on subsequent offenses. (See also R.C. 4511.121.)</p>

MOTOR VEHICLE SALVAGE LAW	
R.C. §	Description of provision
4738.05	Establishes that all motor vehicle salvage dealers' licenses, salvage motor vehicle auction licenses, and salvage motor vehicle pool licenses expire biennially and doubles the license fees accordingly from \$50 to \$100.
4738.18	Establishes that a buyer's identification card expires biennially and increases the fee for the card from \$10 to \$35. Requires the application for the renewal of a card to be made on a form prescribed by the Registrar.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY/DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY	
R.C. §	Description of provision
5502.011	<p>Specifically provides that the Director of the Department of Public Safety is the chief executive and administrative officer of the Department, and that the Director may establish policies governing the Department, the performance of its employees and officers, the conduct of its business, and the custody, use, and preservation of departmental records, papers, books, documents, and property.</p> <p>Requires the Director or the Director's designee to perform certain duties, including (1) administering and directing the performance of the Department's duties, (2) approving, adopting, and</p>

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY/DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY	
R.C. §	Description of provision
	<p>prescribing those forms and rules necessary to carry out the Department's duties, and (3) approving and entering into contracts, agreements, and other business arrangements.</p> <p>Authorizes the Director of Public Safety to assess a reasonable fee, plus the amount of any charge or fee passed on from a financial institution, on a drawer or indorser for (1) a check, draft, or money order that is returned or dishonored, (2) an automatic bank transfer that is declined due to insufficient funds or any other reason, and (3) any financial transaction device that is returned or dishonored for any reason.</p>
5502.11	Provides that every law enforcement agency that investigates a motor vehicle accident involving property damage greater than \$400 (rather than the current threshold of \$150) forward a report of the accident to the Director of Public Safety.

STATE HIGHWAY PATROL	
R.C. §	Description of provision
5503.03	Provides that when the Superintendent of the State Highway Patrol promotes a patrol officer, the officer's salary must be increased to that of the lowest step in the pay range for the new grade that increases the officer's salary or wage by at least 9% of the base pay whenever possible, notwithstanding limitations in the state pay range and step increase provisions to the contrary.
5503.34	Renames the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Enforcement Unit of the State Highway Patrol the "Motor Carrier Enforcement Unit." (Corresponding cross-reference corrections are made in R.C. 3937.41, 4511.01, 4905.06, 4919.79, and 4923.20.)

MAXIMUM MOTOR VEHICLE WIDTH AND LENGTH	
R.C. §	Description of provision
5577.05	<p>Increases the maximum permissible length for passenger buses not operated by a regional transit authority from 40 feet to 45 feet.</p> <p>Specifies that maximum motor vehicle widths do not include side mirrors, turn signal lamps, marker lamps, handholds for cab entry and egress, flexible fender extensions, mud flaps, splash and spray suppressant devices, and load-induced tire bulge.</p> <p>Provides that the maximum width for most motor vehicles of 102 inches does not include tarp and tarp hardware and tiedown</p>

MAXIMUM MOTOR VEHICLE WIDTH AND LENGTH	
R.C. §	Description of provision
	assemblies, provided they do not extend more than three inches from each side of the vehicle.
5577.99	Provides that whoever violates a motor vehicle weight, height, or length restriction for which a penalty is not otherwise specified is guilty of a minor misdemeanor on a first offense and a fourth degree misdemeanor on each subsequent offense.

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	06-19-03	pp. 622-623

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