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Bill Analysis
Legislative Service Commission

H.B. 353

127th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Wagoner, Szollosi

BILL SUMMARY

- Creates Ladybug license plates and requires the \$15 contributions paid by persons who obtain the license plates to be paid to the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association.
- Requires the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association to distribute the contributions to counties, municipal corporations, and townships solely to pay any costs or expenses associated with the parks of those local government units.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Ladybug license plates

Under the bill, the owner or lessee of any passenger car, noncommercial motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, motorcycle, or other vehicle of a class approved by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles may apply for issuance of Ladybug license plates. The application for Ladybug license plates may be combined with a request for a special reserved license plate under current law. Upon receipt of the completed application and compliance by the applicant with the bill's requirements, the Registrar is required to issue to the applicant the appropriate vehicle registration and a set of Ladybug 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 the license plates, Ladybug license plates must bear the figure of a ladybug and be inscribed with the words "State Insect." The Registrar is required to approve the final design. "Ladybug" license plates also must display county identification stickers that identify the county of registration by name or number. (R.C. 4503.741(B).)

"Ladybug" license plates and validation stickers are to be issued upon payment of the regular license tax as prescribed in current law, any applicable local motor vehicle license tax, any applicable additional special reserved license plate fee, a Bureau of Motor Vehicles administrative fee of \$10, a contribution of \$15, and compliance with all other applicable laws relating to motor vehicle registration (R.C. 4503.741(C) and (D)).

The Registrar must collect the \$10 BMV fee and the \$15 contribution for every new and renewal registration application received under the bill. The Registrar is required to deposit the BMV fee, which is to compensate the Bureau for the additional services required in issuing Ladybug license plates, into the existing State Bureau of Motor Vehicles Fund (R.C. 4503.741(D) and (E)).

The Registrar must transmit the contribution to the Treasurer of State for deposit into the state treasury to the credit of the existing License Plate Contribution Fund for payment to the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association. The bill requires the Association, upon application, to distribute the contributions to counties, municipal corporations, and townships solely to pay any costs or expenses associated with the parks of those local government units. The Association must distribute the contributions in such manner and under such terms and conditions as it determines (R.C. 4501.21(B)(23) and 4503.741(D)).

COMMENT

1. The bill refers to the common ladybug, the scientific name of which is *hippodamia convergens*.

2. The ladybug was declared the state insect in Senate Concurrent Resolution 14 of the 111th General Assembly (1975-1976).

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	10-16-07

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