



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

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H.B. 133

130th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Slesnick and Johnson, Blair, Damschroder, DeVitis, Hall, Henne, Hood, Letson, Maag, Mallory, Pillich, Ramos, Reece, Stautberg, Terhar, Wachtmann, Young

BILL SUMMARY

- Replaces the requirement that most motor vehicles display two license plates, one on the front and one on the rear, with a requirement that they display one plate on the rear.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

The bill replaces the current requirement that most motor vehicles, including passenger vehicles, display two license plates, one on the front of the vehicle and one on the rear, with a requirement that a single license plate be displayed on the rear of each such vehicle.¹ The bill specifies that a commercial tractor, whether or not it is registered under the International Registration Plan, must display its license plate and validation sticker on the front of the vehicle.²

In years that license plates are not issued, the Registrar of Motor Vehicles must continue to issue a validation sticker, as required by current law, to be displayed on the single license plate.³ The bill permits historical motor vehicles to display one model year license plate or two model year license plates, one on the front of the vehicle and one on the rear.⁴ Further, the bill removes references to the set of county identification stickers

¹ R.C. 4503.21.

² R.C. 4503.19.

³ R.C. 4503.191, not in the bill.

⁴ R.C. 4503.181.

that currently are issued for motor vehicles such as passenger cars and replaces them with references to one sticker.⁵

The bill provides that the display of a single current license plate and validation sticker on the rear of a motor vehicle sufficiently indicates that a vehicle is registered within Ohio. Any reference in Ohio law to license plates, a set of license plates, registration plates, or validation stickers is deemed to be a reference to the single license plate and validation sticker that the bill specifies.⁶

The bill provides that a motor vehicle that is owned or leased by the state and that is designed to carry passengers may not be operated or driven unless it has displayed, in a prominent position on the rear of the vehicle, a license plate. This provision currently contains references to "plates" and "tags."⁷ In an existing provision that prohibits a person from operating or causing to be operated a motor vehicle of a manufacturer or dealer unless the vehicle carries and displays "two placards," the bill replaces that phrase with "a placard."⁸

The bill does not affect any of the following in any substantive way:

(1) Motor vehicle manufacturers and dealers, motorcycles, motorized bicycles, trailers, manufactured homes, mobile homes, trailers, and semitrailers, all of which are issued only one license plate, which must be displayed on the rear of the vehicle.

(2) School buses, which are not issued license plates but must display identifying numbers issued by the Superintendent of the State Highway Patrol.⁹

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	04-17-13

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⁵ R.C. 4503.19.

⁶ R.C. 4503.192.

⁷ R.C. 4503.23.

⁸ R.C. 4549.10.

⁹ R.C. 4503.17, not in the bill.

