



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Bill Analysis

Mackenzie Damon

H.B. 441

132nd General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Lanese, Dever

BILL SUMMARY

- Authorizes the Department of Taxation to create a program to provide taxpayers that file electronic returns the option of receiving their income tax refund in the form of a prepaid card.
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CONTENT AND OPERATION

Income tax refund by prepaid card

The bill authorizes the Tax Commissioner to establish a program that provides taxpayers that file electronic returns the option of receiving their income tax refund in the form of a prepaid card. A "prepaid card" is defined to be any card, code, or device that is issued for a specific amount – whether or not that amount can be reloaded by the cardholder – and that can be used at an ATM or at multiple, unaffiliated stores.

If the Commissioner establishes the program, the Commissioner may enter into an agreement with one or more issuers of prepaid cards to supply the cards and credit the cards with specific refund amounts. Such an agreement may specify that taxpayers are responsible for any fees associated with the use of the cards.

Under the program, taxpayers may receive their refund as a prepaid card by electing to do so when electronically filing their income tax return. The Commissioner must provide information to taxpayers describing the features of the prepaid card program, including any fees associated with receiving or using a card and alternate refund options available to taxpayers.¹

¹ R.C. 5747.114.

Under current law, the Department may issue refunds by paper check or direct deposit. Taxpayers may also contribute all or part of a refund to the Natural Areas and Preserves Fund, Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Fund, Military Injury Relief Fund, Ohio History Fund, Breast and Cervical Cancer Project Income Tax Contribution Fund, or Wishes for Sick Children Income Tax Contribution Fund by checking the appropriate box on their income tax return.²

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	12-07-17

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² R.C. 126.35 and 5747.11; R.C. 5747.113, not in the bill.

