#### As Passed by the Senate

## 131st General Assembly

Regular Session 2015-2016

Am. Sub. H. B. No. 341

### Representatives Young, Sweeney

Cosponsors: Representatives Becker, Boose, Hall, Retherford, Terhar, Thompson, Amstutz, Barnes, Boyd, Conditt, Dever, Green, Grossman, Hambley, Howse, Johnson, G., Rogers

Senators LaRose, Eklund, Gardner, Hackett, Hite, Seitz, Yuko

# A BILL

То	amend sections 4505.101, 4505.11, 4513.60,	1
	4513.601, 4513.61, 4513.611, 4513.67, 4513.68,	2
	4513.69, and 4921.25 and to enact sections	3
	4505.103, 4513.612, and 4513.70 of the Revised	4
	Code to require the Public Utilities Commission	5
	to establish towing and storage fees and to	6
	review those fees every five years, to establish	7
	an after-hours fee for the retrieval of personal	8
	items from a motor vehicle that was towed from	9
	private property or otherwise upon the order of	10
	law enforcement, to modify the civil penalties	11
	applicable to violations of the towing law, to	12
	impose criminal penalties for the failure of a	13
	towing service to obtain a certificate of public	14
	convenience and necessity, to allow a repair	15
	garage, towing service, or storage facility to	16
	obtain a salvage certificate of title to a motor	17
	vehicle under specified circumstances, to alter	18
	notice requirements applicable to a salvage	19
	auction or pool that obtains a salvage	20
	certificate of title for a motor vehicle, to	21

establis	sh a	a new	civil	action,	and	to	make	other	22
changes	to	the	towing	law.					23

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 4505.101, 4505.11, 4513.60,	24
4513.601, 4513.61, 4513.611, 4513.67, 4513.68, 4513.69, and	25
4921.25 be amended and sections 4505.103, 4513.612, and 4513.70	26
of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:	27
Sec. 4505.101. (A) (1) The owner of any Any repair garage	28
or place of storage in which a motor vehicle with a value of	29
less than three thousand five hundred dollars has been left	30
unclaimed for fifteen days or more following completion of the	31
requested repair or the agreed term of storage shall send by	32
certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last known	33
address of any owner and any lienholder of the motor vehicle a	34
notice to remove the motor vehicle. In order to identify any	35
owner or lienholder, prior to sending a notice, the repair	36
garage or place of storage shall cause a search to be made of	37
the records of the bureau of motor vehicles. Any notice to a	38
lienholder shall state where the motor vehicle is located and	39
the value of the vehicle. If the person who requested the repair	40
or who agreed to the storage of the motor vehicle is not the	41
owner or a lienholder of the motor vehicle as indicated in the	42
records of the bureau, the repair garage or place of storage	43
also shall notify the sheriff of the county or the police	44
department of the municipal corporation, township, or township	45
or joint police district in which the repair garage or place of	46
storage is located that the repair garage or place of storage is	47
in possession of the vehicle.	48

If the (2) The repair garage or place of storage may	49
obtain a certificate of title to the motor vehicle if all of the	50
<pre>following apply:</pre>	51
(a) The motor vehicle remains unclaimed by any owner or	52
lienholder of the vehicle for fifteen days after the mailing of	53
all required notices, and for .	54
(b) For each notice, the person on whose property the	55
vehicle has been abandoned either repair garage or place of	56
storage has either received the signed receipt from the	57
certified mail or has been notified that the delivery was not	58
possible, the person may obtain a certificate of title to the	59
motor vehicle in the person's name in the manner provided in	60
this section. Unless the lienholder claims the motor vehicle	61
within fifteen days from the mailing of the notice, the	62
lienholder's lien is invalid.	63
(2) The owner (c) An agent of the repair garage or place	64
of storage that mailed the notice <del>shall execute</del> <u>executes</u> an	65
affidavit, in a form established by the registrar of motor	66
vehicles by rule, affirming that all of the requirements of this	67
section necessary to authorize the issuance of a certificate of	68
title for the motor vehicle have been met. The affidavit shall	69
set forth an itemized statement of the value of the motor	70
vehicle; the length of time that the motor vehicle has remained	71
unclaimed; that a notice to remove the vehicle has been mailed	72
to any titled owner or lienholder by certified mail, return	73
receipt requested; and that a search of the records of the	74
bureau of motor vehicles has been made in accordance with	75
division (A)(1) of this section.	76
(B) The owner of a A towing service or storage facility	77
that is in possession of a vehicle may obtain a certificate of	78

title to the vehicle as provided in division (C) of this section	79
if all of the following apply:	80
(1) The vehicle was towed under division (B) of section	81
4513.601 of the Revised Code.	82
4313.001 Of the Nevised Code.	02
(2) The vehicle has a value of less than three thousand	83
five hundred dollars.	84
(3) The vehicle has been left unclaimed for sixty days	85
after the date the earliest notice required by division (F)(1)	86
of section 4513.601 of the Revised Code is received, as	87
evidenced by a receipt signed by any person, or the towing	88
service or storage facility has been notified that the delivery	89
was not possible.	90
(4) The armon To agent of the terring coursing on atomore	91
(4) The owner An agent of the towing service or storage	
facility executes an affidavit, in a form established by the	92
registrar of motor vehicles by rule, affirming that all of the	93
requirements of this section necessary to authorize the issuance	94
of a certificate of title for the motor vehicle have been met.	95
The affidavit shall set forth an itemized statement of the value	96
of the motor vehicle; that notices to remove the vehicle have	97
been mailed to the owner and any lienholder as required under	98
division (F) of section 4513.601 of the Revised Code; the length	99
of time that the motor vehicle has remained unclaimed after the	100
date the earliest notice required under division (F) of section	101
4513.601 of the Revised Code was received or the towing service	102
or storage facility was notified that delivery was not possible;	103
and that a search of the records of the bureau of motor vehicles	104
has been made for outstanding liens on the motor vehicle.	105
(C)(1) The clerk of courts shall issue a certificate of	106

title, free and clear of all liens and encumbrances as follows:

$\frac{(1)-(a)}{(a)}$ To a repair garage or place of storage that	108
presents an affidavit that complies with all of the requirements	109
of division (A) of this section;	110
(2) (b) To a towing service or storage facility that	111
presents an affidavit in compliance with division (B) of this	112
section.	113
(2) A repair garage or place of storage may use the	114
process established under division (A) of this section in order	115
to take title to a motor vehicle even if the person who	116
requested the repair or who agreed to the storage of the motor	117
vehicle is not the owner or a lienholder of the motor vehicle as	118
indicated in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles.	119
(3) Upon receipt of the certificate of title, a repair	120
garage or place of storage, or a towing service or storage	121
facility, shall pay to the clerk of courts the value of the	122
motor vehicle—for deposit minus both of the following:	123
(a) If the motor vehicle was towed by the party seeking	124
title to the motor vehicle under this section, a towing fee;	125
(b) Storage fees for the period of time the vehicle was	126
stored without payment.	127
The clerk of courts shall deposit any money received under	128
this section into the county general fund.	129
(D) Whoever violates this section shall be fined not more	130
than two hundred dollars, imprisoned not more than ninety days,	131
or both.	132
(E) As used in this section:	133
(1) "Repair garage or place of storage" means any business	134
with which a person entered into an agreement for the repair of	135

a motor vehicle or any business with which a person entered into	136
an agreement for the storage of a motor vehicle.	137
(2) "Towing service or storage facility" means any for-	138
hire motor carrier that removes a motor vehicle under the	139
authority of section 4513.601 of the Revised Code and any place	140
to which such a for-hire motor carrier delivers a motor vehicle	141
towed under that section.	142
(3) "Value" means the wholesale value for that make and	143
model of motor vehicle at the time an affidavit is submitted	144
under division (C) of this section, as provided in a vehicle	145
valuation guide that is generally available and recognized by	146
the motor vehicle industry, minus both of the following:	147
(a) The estimated cost of repairs to restore the motor	148
vehicle to the wholesale value for that make and model of motor	149
vehicle;	150
(b) The cost of any agreed-upon repairs.	151
Sec. 4505.103. (A) As used in this section:	152
(1) "Authorized entity" means any business with which a	153
person entered into an agreement for the repair of a motor	154
vehicle, any for-hire motor carrier that tows motor vehicles, or	155
any place to which such a for-hire motor carrier delivers a	156
towed motor vehicle for storage.	157
(2) "Motor vehicle salvage dealer" has the same meaning as	158
in section 4738.01 of the Revised Code.	159
(3) "Scrap metal processing facility" has the same meaning	160
as in section 4737.05 of the Revised Code.	161
(4) "Value" means the wholesale value for that make and	162
model of motor vehicle at the time an affidavit is submitted	163

under this section, as provided in a vehicle valuation guide	164
that is generally available and recognized by the motor vehicle	165
<pre>industry, minus all of the following:</pre>	166
(a) The estimated cost of repairs to restore the motor	167
vehicle to the wholesale value for that make and model of motor	168
<pre>vehicle;</pre>	169
(b) If the motor vehicle was towed by the party seeking	170
title to the motor vehicle under this section, a towing fee;	171
(c) Storage fees for the period of time that the vehicle	172
was stored without payment, up to a maximum of thirty days of	173
storage fees.	174
(B) (1) An authorized entity may obtain a salvage	175
certificate of title to a motor vehicle in the possession of the	176
authorized entity for purposes of disposing of the motor vehicle	177
through a motor vehicle salvage dealer or a scrap metal	178
processing facility if all of the following apply to the motor	179
<pre>vehicle:</pre>	180
(a) The motor vehicle has a value of less than one	181
thousand five hundred dollars.	182
(b) The motor vehicle is inoperable.	183
(c) The motor vehicle is impossible to restore for highway	184
operation.	185
(2) In order to obtain a salvage certificate of title to a	186
motor vehicle, the authorized entity shall cause a search to be	187
made of the records of the bureau of motor vehicles to ascertain	188
the identity of the owner and any lienholder of the motor	189
vehicle. The registrar of motor vehicles shall ensure that such	190
information is provided in a timely manner. Within eight	191

business days after the registrar provides the identity of the	192
owner and any lienholder of the motor vehicle, if the vehicle	193
remains unclaimed, the authorized entity shall send written	194
notice to any owner and any lienholder of the vehicle by	195
certified or express mail with return receipt requested or by a	196
commercial carrier service utilizing any form of delivery	197
requiring a signed receipt. If the motor vehicle came into the	198
possession of a towing service or storage facility as a result	199
of being towed, the notice shall include notice that if the	200
owner disputes that the motor vehicle was lawfully towed, the	201
owner may be able to file a civil action under section 4513.611_	202
of the Revised Code.	203
(3) Not sooner than thirty days after the notice has been	204
received, as evidenced by a receipt signed by any person, or the	205
authorized entity has been notified that the delivery was not	206
possible, an agent of the authorized entity may complete and	207
sign an affidavit, on a form prescribed by the registrar of	208
motor vehicles, attesting that the motor vehicle qualifies for	209
disposal under this section and that all of the requirements of	210
this section have been complied with. The affidavit shall	211
include the make and model of the motor vehicle; the vehicle	212
identification number if available; an itemized statement of the	213
value of the motor vehicle; a description of the damage to the	214
motor vehicle; the length of time that the motor vehicle has	215
remained unclaimed; that a notice to remove the motor vehicle	216
has been mailed to any titled owner or lienholder by certified	217
or express mail with return receipt requested or by a commercial	218
carrier service utilizing any form of delivery requiring a	219
signed receipt; and that a search of the records of the bureau	220
of motor vehicles has been made for outstanding liens on the	221
motor vehicle. The authorized entity also shall photograph the	222

motor vehicle to substantiate the determination that the value	223
of the motor vehicle is less than one thousand five hundred	224
dollars.	225
(C) An agent of the authorized entity may present the	226
affidavit along with the photographs, an application for a	227
salvage certificate of title, and a fee of four dollars to the	228
clerk of courts. Upon receipt of a properly executed application	229
and the required fee and documents, the clerk of courts shall	230
issue a salvage certificate of title to the motor vehicle, on a	231
form prescribed by the registrar, and shall mark the certificate	232
of title with the words "FOR DESTRUCTION." The clerk shall	233
retain a record of the issuance of the salvage certificate of	234
title and all accompanying documentation in the automated title	235
processing system for not less than ten years. The clerk shall	236
deposit the four-dollar fee into the certificate of title	237
administration fund established under section 325.33 of the	238
Revised Code.	239
A salvage certificate of title issued under this section	240
is free and clear of all liens and shall be used solely for	241
purposes of disposing of the vehicle through a motor vehicle	242
salvage dealer or a scrap metal processing facility. No motor	243
vehicle for which a certificate of title has been issued under	244
this section shall be used for anything except parts and scrap	245
<pre>metal.</pre>	246
(D) At the time of disposal, the authorized entity shall	247
deliver the salvage certificate of title to the motor vehicle	248
salvage dealer or scrap metal processing facility for its	249
records. Any money arising from the disposal of the motor	250
vehicle may be retained by the authorized entity.	251
Sec. 4505.11. This section shall also apply to all-purpose	252

vehicles	and	off-highwa	y motorcycles	as	defined i	.n	section	253
4519.01	of th	ne Revised	Code.					254

(A) Each owner of a motor vehicle and each person 255 mentioned as owner in the last certificate of title, when the 256 motor vehicle is dismantled, destroyed, or changed in such 257 manner that it loses its character as a motor vehicle, or 258 changed in such manner that it is not the motor vehicle 259 described in the certificate of title, shall surrender the 260 certificate of title to that motor vehicle to a clerk of a court 261 262 of common pleas, and the clerk, with the consent of any holders of any liens noted on the certificate of title, then shall enter 263 a cancellation upon the clerk's records and shall notify the 264 registrar of motor vehicles of the cancellation. 265

Upon the cancellation of a certificate of title in the 266 manner prescribed by this section, any clerk and the registrar 267 of motor vehicles may cancel and destroy all certificates and 268 all memorandum certificates in that chain of title. 269

(B)(1) If an Ohio certificate of title or salvage 270 certificate of title to a motor vehicle is assigned to a salvage 271 dealer, the dealer is not required to obtain an Ohio certificate 272 of title or a salvage certificate of title to the motor vehicle 273 in the dealer's own name if the dealer dismantles or destroys 274 the motor vehicle, indicates the number of the dealer's motor 275 vehicle salvage dealer's license on it, marks "FOR DESTRUCTION" 276 across the face of the certificate of title or salvage 277 certificate of title, and surrenders the certificate of title or 278 salvage certificate of title to a clerk of a court of common 279 pleas as provided in division (A) of this section. If the 280 salvage dealer retains the motor vehicle for resale, the dealer 2.81 shall make application for a salvage certificate of title to the 282

motor	vehicle	in	the	dealer'	s own	name	as	provided	in	division	283
(C) (1)	of this	s se	ectio	on.							284

- (2) At the time any salvage motor vehicle is sold at

  auction or through a pool, the salvage motor vehicle auction or

  salvage motor vehicle pool shall give a copy of the salvage

  certificate of title or a copy of the certificate of title

  marked "FOR DESTRUCTION" to the purchaser.

  285

  286

  287
- (C) (1) When an insurance company declares it economically
  impractical to repair such a motor vehicle and has paid an
  291
  agreed price for the purchase of the motor vehicle to any
  292
  insured or claimant owner, the insurance company shall proceed
  293
  as follows:
- (a) If an insurance company receives the certificate of 295 title and the motor vehicle, within thirty business days, the 296 insurance company shall deliver the certificate of title to a 297 clerk of a court of common pleas and shall make application for 298 a salvage certificate of title.
- (b) If an insurance company obtains possession of the 300 motor vehicle but is unable to obtain the properly endorsed 301 certificate of title for the motor vehicle within thirty 302 business days following the vehicle's owner or lienholder's 303 acceptance of the insurance company's payment for the vehicle, 304 the insurance company may apply to the clerk of a court of 305 common pleas for a salvage certificate of title without 306 delivering the certificate of title for the motor vehicle. The 307 application shall be accompanied by evidence that the insurance 308 company has paid a total loss claim on the vehicle, a copy of 309 the written request for the certificate of title from the 310 insurance company or its designee, and proof that the request 311 was delivered by a nationally recognized courier service to the 312

last	known	addı	cess	of	the	owner	of	the	vehicle	and	any	known	313
lienh	nolder,	to	obta	ain	the	certi	fica	ate	of title.				314

(c) Upon receipt of a properly completed application for a 315 salvage certificate of title as described in division (C)(1)(a) 316 or (b) or (C)(2) of this section, the clerk shall issue the 317 salvage certificate of title on a form, prescribed by the 318 registrar, that shall be easily distinguishable from the 319 original certificate of title and shall bear the same 320 information as the original certificate of title except that it 321 322 may bear a different number than that of the original 323 certificate of title. The salvage certificate of title shall include the following notice in bold lettering: 324

"SALVAGE MOTOR VEHICLE - PURSUANT TO R.C. 4738.01."

Except as provided in division (C)(3) of this section, the 326 salvage certificate of title shall be assigned by the insurance 327 company to a salvage dealer or any other person for use as 328 evidence of ownership upon the sale or other disposition of the 329 motor vehicle, and the salvage certificate of title shall be 330 transferrable to any other person. The clerk shall 331 charge a fee of four dollars for the cost of processing each 332 salvage certificate of title. 333

(2) If an insurance company requests that a salvage motor 334 vehicle auction take possession of a motor vehicle that is the 335 subject of an insurance claim, and subsequently the insurance 336 company denies coverage with respect to the motor vehicle or 337 does not otherwise take ownership of the motor vehicle, the 338 salvage motor vehicle auction may proceed as follows. After the 339 salvage motor vehicle auction has possession of the motor 340 vehicle for forty-five days, it may apply to the clerk of a 341 court of common pleas for a salvage certificate of title without 342

357

358

359

360

361

362

363

364

365

delivering the certificate of title for the motor vehicle. The	343
application shall be accompanied by a copy of the written	344
request that the vehicle be removed from the facility on the	345
salvage motor vehicle auction's letterhead, and the original	346
certified mail, return receipt notice, addressed proof that the	347
request was delivered by a nationally recognized courier service	348
to the last known <u>address of the</u> owner of the vehicle and any	349
known lienholder, requesting that the vehicle be removed from	350
the facility of the salvage motor vehicle auction. Upon receipt	351
of a properly completed application, the clerk shall follow the	352
process as described in division (C)(1)(c) of this section. The	353
salvage certificate of title so issued shall be free and clear	354
of all liens.	355

- (3) If an insurance company considers a motor vehicle as described in division (C)(1)(a) or (b) of this section to be impossible to restore for highway operation, the insurance company may assign the certificate of title to the motor vehicle to a salvage dealer or scrap metal processing facility and send the assigned certificate of title to the clerk of the court of common pleas of any county. The insurance company shall mark the face of the certificate of title "FOR DESTRUCTION" and shall deliver a photocopy of the certificate of title to the salvage dealer or scrap metal processing facility for its records.
- (4) If an insurance company declares it economically 366 impractical to repair a motor vehicle, agrees to pay to the 367 insured or claimant owner an amount in settlement of a claim 368 against a policy of motor vehicle insurance covering the motor 369 vehicle, and agrees to permit the insured or claimant owner to 370 retain possession of the motor vehicle, the insurance company 371 shall not pay the insured or claimant owner any amount in 372 settlement of the insurance claim until the owner obtains a 373

salvage certificate of title to the vehicle and furnishes a copy	374
of the salvage certificate of title to the insurance company.	375
(D) When a self-insured organization, rental or leasing	376
company, or secured creditor becomes the owner of a motor	377
vehicle that is burned, damaged, or dismantled and is determined	378
to be economically impractical to repair, the self-insured	379
organization, rental or leasing company, or secured creditor	380
shall do one of the following:	381
(1) Mark the face of the certificate of title to the motor	382
vehicle "FOR DESTRUCTION" and surrender the certificate of title	383
to a clerk of a court of common pleas for cancellation as	384
described in division (A) of this section. The self-insured	385
organization, rental or leasing company, or secured creditor	386
then shall deliver the motor vehicle, together with a photocopy	387
of the certificate of title, to a salvage dealer or scrap metal	388
processing facility and shall cause the motor vehicle to be	389
dismantled, flattened, crushed, or destroyed.	390
(2) Obtain a salvage certificate of title to the motor	391
vehicle in the name of the self-insured organization, rental or	392
leasing company, or secured creditor, as provided in division	393
(C)(1) of this section, and then sell or otherwise dispose of	394
the motor vehicle. If the motor vehicle is sold, the self-	395
insured organization, rental or leasing company, or secured	396
creditor shall obtain a salvage certificate of title to the	397
motor vehicle in the name of the purchaser from a clerk of a	398
court of common pleas.	399
(E) If a motor vehicle titled with a salvage certificate	400
of title is restored for operation upon the highways,	401
application shall be made to a clerk of a court of common pleas	402

for a certificate of title. Upon inspection by the state highway

patrol, which shall include establishing proof of ownership and	404
an inspection of the motor number and vehicle identification	405
number of the motor vehicle and of documentation or receipts for	406
the materials used in restoration by the owner of the motor	407
vehicle being inspected, which documentation or receipts shall	408
be presented at the time of inspection, the clerk, upon	409
surrender of the salvage certificate of title, shall issue a	410
certificate of title for a fee prescribed by the registrar. The	411
certificate of title shall be in the same form as the original	412
certificate of title and shall bear the words "REBUILT SALVAGE"	413
in black boldface letters on its face. Every subsequent	414
certificate of title, memorandum certificate of title, or	415
duplicate certificate of title issued for the motor vehicle also	416
shall bear the words "REBUILT SALVAGE" in black boldface letters	417
on its face. The exact location on the face of the certificate	418
of title of the words "REBUILT SALVAGE" shall be determined by	419
the registrar, who shall develop an automated procedure within	420
the automated title processing system to comply with this	421
division. The clerk shall use reasonable care in performing the	422
duties imposed on the clerk by this division in issuing a	423
certificate of title pursuant to this division, but the clerk is	424
not liable for any of the clerk's errors or omissions or those	425
of the clerk's deputies, or the automated title processing	426
system in the performance of those duties. A fee of fifty	427
dollars shall be assessed by the state highway patrol for each	428
inspection made pursuant to this division and shall be deposited	429
into the state highway safety fund established by section	430
4501.06 of the Revised Code.	431

(F) No person shall operate upon the highways in this 432 state a motor vehicle, title to which is evidenced by a salvage 433 certificate of title, except to deliver the motor vehicle 434

pursuant to an appointment for an inspection under this section.	435
(G) No motor vehicle the certificate of title to which has	436
been marked "FOR DESTRUCTION" and surrendered to a clerk of a	437
court of common pleas shall be used for anything except parts	438
and scrap metal.	439
(H)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this division, an	440
owner of a manufactured or mobile home that will be taxed as	441
real property pursuant to division (B) of section 4503.06 of the	442
Revised Code shall surrender the certificate of title to the	443
auditor of the county containing the taxing district in which	444
the home is located. An owner whose home qualifies for real	445
property taxation under divisions (B)(1)(a) and (b) of section	446
4503.06 of the Revised Code shall surrender the certificate	447
within fifteen days after the home meets the conditions	448
specified in those divisions. The auditor shall deliver the	449
certificate of title to the clerk of the court of common pleas	450
who issued it.	451
(2) If the certificate of title for a manufactured or	452
mobile home that is to be taxed as real property is held by a	453
lienholder, the lienholder shall surrender the certificate of	454
title to the auditor of the county containing the taxing	455
district in which the home is located, and the auditor shall	456
deliver the certificate of title to the clerk of the court of	457
common pleas who issued it. The lienholder shall surrender the	458
certificate within thirty days after both of the following have	459
occurred:	460
(a) The homeowner has provided written notice to the	461
lienholder requesting that the certificate of title be	462
surrendered to the auditor of the county containing the taxing	463
district in which the home is located.	464

(b) The homeowner has either paid the lienholder the	465
remaining balance owed to the lienholder, or, with the	466
lienholder's consent, executed and delivered to the lienholder a	467
mortgage on the home and land on which the home is sited in the	468
amount of the remaining balance owed to the lienholder.	469
(3) Upon the delivery of a certificate of title by the	470
county auditor to the clerk, the clerk shall inactivate it and	471
maintain it in the automated title processing system for a	472
period of thirty years.	473
(4) Upon application by the owner of a manufactured or	474
mobile home that is taxed as real property pursuant to division	475
(B) of section 4503.06 of the Revised Code and that no longer	476
satisfies divisions (B)(1)(a) and (b) or divisions (B)(2)(a) and	477
(b) of that section, the clerk shall reactivate the record of	478
the certificate of title that was inactivated under division (H)	479
(3) of this section and shall issue a new certificate of title,	480
but only if the application contains or has attached to it all	481
of the following:	482
(a) An endorsement of the county treasurer that all real	483
property taxes charged against the home under Title LVII of the	484
Revised Code and division (B) of section 4503.06 of the Revised	485
Code for all preceding tax years have been paid;	486
(b) An endorsement of the county auditor that the home	487
will be removed from the real property tax list;	488
(c) Proof that there are no outstanding mortgages or other	489
liens on the home or, if there are such mortgages or other	490
liens, that the mortgagee or lienholder has consented to the	491
reactivation of the certificate of title.	492

(I) (1) Whoever violates division (F) of this section shall

523

be fined not more than two thousand dollars, imprisoned not more	494
than one year, or both.	495
(2) Whoever violates division (G) of this section shall be	496
fined not more than one thousand dollars, imprisoned not more	497
than six months, or both.	498
Sec. 4513.60. (A)(1) The sheriff of a county or chief of	499
police of a municipal corporation, township, or township or	500
joint police district, within the sheriff's or chief's	501
respective territorial jurisdiction, upon complaint of any	502
person adversely affected, may order into storage any motor	503
vehicle, other than an abandoned junk motor vehicle as defined	504
in section 4513.63 of the Revised Code, that has been left on	505
private residential or private agricultural property for at	506
least four hours without the permission of the person having the	507
right to the possession of the property. The sheriff or chief of	508
police, upon complaint of the owner of a repair garage or place	509
of storage, may order into storage any motor vehicle, other than	510
an abandoned junk motor vehicle, that has been left at the	511
garage or place of storage for a longer period than that agreed	512
upon. When ordering a motor vehicle into storage pursuant to	513
this division, a sheriff or chief of police may arrange for the	514
removal of the motor vehicle by a towing service and shall	515
designate a storage facility.	516
(2) A towing service towing a motor vehicle under division	517
(A)(1) of this section shall remove the motor vehicle in	518
accordance with that division. The towing service shall deliver	519
the motor vehicle to the location designated by the sheriff or	520
chief of police not more than two hours after the time it is	521

removed from the private property, unless the towing service is\_

unable to deliver the motor vehicle within two hours due to an

553

uncontrollable force, natural disaster, or other event that is	524
not within the power of the towing service.	525
(3) Subject to division (B) of this section, the owner of	526
a motor vehicle that has been removed pursuant to this division	527
may recover the vehicle only in accordance with division (D) of	528
this section.	529
this section.	329
(4) As used in this section, "private residential	530
property" means private property on which is located one or more	531
structures that are used as a home, residence, or sleeping place	532
by one or more persons, if no more than three separate	533
households are maintained in the structure or structures.	534
"Private residential property" does not include any private	535
property on which is located one or more structures that are	536
used as a home, residence, or sleeping place by two or more	537
persons, if more than three separate households are maintained	538
in the structure or structures.	539
(B) If the owner or operator of a motor vehicle that has	540
been ordered into storage pursuant to division (A)(1) of this	541
section arrives after the motor vehicle has been prepared for	542
removal, but prior to its actual removal from the property, the	543
towing service shall give the owner or operator oral or written	544
notification at the time of such arrival that the vehicle owner	545
or operator may pay a fee of not more than one-half of the fee	546
for the removal of the motor vehicle <u>established by the public</u>	547
<u>utilities commission in rules adopted</u> under <del>division (D)(1) of</del>	548
this—section_4921.25 of the Revised Code, in order to obtain	549
release of the motor vehicle. <del>Upon However, if the vehicle is</del>	550
within a municipal corporation and the municipal corporation has	551

established a vehicle removal fee, the towing service shall give

the owner or operator oral or written notification that the

owner or operator may pay not more than one-half of that fee to	554
obtain release of the motor vehicle. That fee may be paid by use	555
of a major credit card unless the towing service uses a mobile	556
credit card processor and mobile service is not available at the	557
time of the transaction.	558

Upon payment of that the applicable fee, the towing 559 service shall give the vehicle owner or operator a receipt 560 showing both the full amount normally assessed and the actual 561 amount received and shall release the motor vehicle to the owner 562 or operator. Upon its release, the owner or operator immediately 563 shall move it so that it is not on the private residential or 564 private agricultural property without the permission of the 565 person having the right to possession of the property, or is not 566 at the garage or place of storage without the permission of the 567 owner, whichever is applicable. 568

(C)(1) Each county sheriff and each chief of police of a 569 municipal corporation, township, or township or joint police 570 district shall maintain a record of motor vehicles that the 571 sheriff or chief orders into storage pursuant to division (A)(1) 572 of this section. The record shall include an entry for each such 573 motor vehicle that identifies the motor vehicle's license 574 number, make, model, and color, the location from which it was 575 removed, the date and time of its removal, the telephone number 576 of the person from whom it may be recovered, and the address of 577 the place to which it has been taken and from which it may be 578 recovered. A sheriff or chief of police shall provide any 579 information in the record that pertains to a particular motor 580 vehicle to any person who, either in person or pursuant to a 581 telephone call, identifies self as the owner or operator of the 582 motor vehicle and requests information pertaining to its 583 location. 584

(2) Any person who registers a complaint that is the basis	585
of a sheriff's or police chief's order for the removal and	586
storage of a motor vehicle under division (A)(1) of this section	587
shall provide the identity of the law enforcement agency with	588
which the complaint was registered to any person who identifies	589
self as the owner or operator of the motor vehicle and requests	590
information pertaining to its location.	591
(D)(1) The owner or lienholder of a motor vehicle that is	592
ordered into storage pursuant to division (A)(1) of this section	593
may reclaim it upon both of the following:	594
(a) Payment of the following all applicable fees:	595
(i) Not more than ninety dollars for the removal of the	596
motor vehicle. However, if the motor vehicle has a	597
manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating in excess of ten-	598
thousand pounds and is a truck, bus, or a combination of a	599
commercial tractor and trailer or semitrailer, not more than one	600
hundred fifty dollars for the removal.	601
(ii) Not more than twelve dollars per twenty four hour	602
period for the storage of the motor vehicle. However, if the	603
motor vehicle has a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating	604
in excess of ten thousand pounds and is a truck, bus, or a	605
combination of a commercial tractor and trailer or semitrailer,	606
not more than twenty dollars per twenty four hour period for	607
storage established by the public utilities commission in rules	608
adopted under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code or, if the	609
vehicle was towed within a municipal corporation that has	610
established fees for vehicle removal and storage, payment of all	611
applicable fees established by the municipal corporation.	612

(b) Presentation of proof of ownership, which may be

evidenced by a certificate of title to the motor vehicle, a	614
certificate of registration for the motor vehicle, or a lease	615
agreement.	616
When the owner of a vehicle towed under this section	617
retrieves the vehicle, the towing service or storage facility in	618
possession of the vehicle shall give the owner written notice	619
that if the owner disputes that the motor vehicle was lawfully	620
towed, the owner may be able to file a civil action under	621
section 4513.611 of the Revised Code.	622
(2) Upon presentation of proof of ownership as required	623
under division (D)(1)(b) of this section, the owner of a motor	624
vehicle that is ordered into storage under division (A)(1) of	625
this section may retrieve any personal items from the motor	626
vehicle without retrieving the vehicle and without paying any	627
fee. However, a towing service or storage facility may charge an	628
after-hours retrieval fee established by the public utilities	629
commission in rules adopted under section 4921.25 of the Revised	630
Code if the owner retrieves the personal items after hours,	631
unless the towing service or storage facility fails to provide	632
the notice required under division (B)(3) of section 4513.69 of	633
the Revised Code, if applicable. However, the The owner may of a	634
motor vehicle shall not retrieve do either of the following:	635
(a) Retrieve any personal item that has been determined by	636
the sheriff or chief of police, as applicable, to be necessary	637
to a criminal investigation;	638
(b) Retrieve any personal item from a vehicle if it would	639
endanger the safety of the owner, unless the owner agrees to	640
sign a waiver of liability.	641

For purposes of division (D)(2) of this section, "personal

items" do not include any items that are attached to the motor	643
vehicle.	644
(3) If a motor vehicle that is ordered into storage	645
pursuant to division (A)(1) of this section remains unclaimed by	646
the owner for thirty days, the procedures established by	647
sections 4513.61 and 4513.62 of the Revised Code apply.	648
(E)(1) No person shall remove, or cause the removal of,	649
any motor vehicle from any private residential or private	650
agricultural property other than in accordance with division (A)	651
(1) of this section or sections 4513.61 to 4513.65 of the	652
Revised Code.	653
(2) No towing service or storage facility shall fail to	654
comply with the requirements of this section.	655
(F) This section does not apply to any private residential	656
or private agricultural property that is established as a	657
private tow-away zone in accordance with section 4513.601 of the	658
Revised Code.	659
(G) The owner of any towing service or storage facility	660
that Whoever violates division (E) of this section is guilty of	661
a minor misdemeanor.	662
Sec. 4513.601. (A) The owner of <u>a</u> private property may	663
establish a private tow-away zone, but may do so only if all of	664
the following conditions are satisfied:	665
(1) The owner of the private property posts on the owner's	666
property a sign, that is at least eighteen inches by twenty-four	667
inches in size, that is visible from all entrances to the	668
property, and that includes all of the following information:	669
(a) A statement that the property is a tow-away zone;	670

(b) A description of persons authorized to park on the	671
property. If the property is a residential property, the owner	672
of the private property may include on the sign a statement that	673
only tenants and guests may park in the private tow-away zone,	674
subject to the terms of the property owner. If the property is a	675
commercial property, the owner of the private property may	676
include on the sign a statement that only customers may park in	677
the private tow-away zone. In all cases, if it is not apparent	678
which persons may park in the private tow-away zone, the owner	679
of the private property shall include on the sign the address of	680
the property on which the private tow-away zone is located or	681
the name of the business that is located on the property	682
designated as a private tow-away zone.	683
(c) If the private tow-away zone is not enforceable at all	684
times, the times during which the parking restrictions are	685
enforced;	686
Childreda,	
(d) The telephone number and the address of the place from	687
which a towed vehicle may be recovered at any time during the	688
day or night;	689
(e) A statement that the failure to recover a towed	690
vehicle may result in the loss of title to the vehicle as	691
provided in division (B) of section 4505.101 of the Revised	692
Code.	693
Any owner of property that has been established as a	694
private tow away zone under section 4513.60 of the Revised Code	695
as that section existed prior to March 23, 2015, who does not	696
have a contract with a towing service for the removal of	697
vehicles from the property may retain existing private tow-away	698
zone signs that comply with that section for up to six months	699

after March 23, 2015. At any time, in In order to comply with

the requirements of division $\frac{B}{A}$ (1) of this section, such a	701
property the owner of a private property may modify the an	702
existing sign by affixing to the existing sign stickers or an	703
addendum in lieu of replacing the sign.	704
(2) A towing service ensures that a vehicle towed under	705
this section is taken to a location from which it may be	706
recovered that complies with all of the following:	707
(a) It is located within twenty-twenty-five linear miles	708
of the location of the private tow-away zone, unless it is not	709
practicable to take the vehicle to a place of storage within	710
twenty-twenty-five_linear miles.	711
(b) It is well-lighted.	712
(c) It is on or within a reasonable distance of a	713
regularly scheduled route of one or more modes of public	714
transportation, if any public transportation is available in the	715
municipal corporation or township in which the private tow-away	716
zone is located.	717
(B)(1) If a vehicle is parked on private property that is	718
established as a private tow-away zone in accordance with	719
division (A) of this section, without the consent of the owner	720
of the <u>private</u> property or in violation of any posted parking	721
condition or regulation, the owner of the private property may	722
cause the removal of the vehicle by a towing service. The towing	723
service shall remove the vehicle in accordance with this	724
section. The vehicle owner and the operator of the vehicle are	725
considered to have consented to the removal and storage of the	726
vehicle, to the payment of the applicable fees established <del>under</del>	727
division (G) of this by the public utilities commission in rules	728

adopted under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code, and to the

736

737

738739

740 741

right of a towing service to obtain title to the vehicle if it
remains unclaimed as provided in section 4505.101 of the Revised
Code. The owner or lienholder of a vehicle that has been removed
under this section, subject to division (C) of this section, may
recover the vehicle in accordance with division (G) of this
section.

- (2) If a municipal corporation requires tow trucks and tow truck operators to be licensed, no owner of <u>a</u> private property located within the municipal corporation shall cause the removal and storage of any vehicle pursuant to division (B) of this section by an unlicensed tow truck or unlicensed tow truck operator.
- (3) No towing service shall remove a vehicle from a

  private tow-away zone except pursuant to a written contract for
  the removal of vehicles entered into with the owner of the
  private property on which the private tow-away zone is located.

  742
- (C) If the owner or operator of a vehicle that is being 746 removed under authority of division (B) of this section arrives 747 after the vehicle has been prepared for removal, but prior to 748 its actual removal from the property, the towing service shall 749 give the vehicle owner or operator oral or written notification 750 at the time of such arrival that the vehicle owner or operator 751 may pay a fee of not more than one-half of the fee for the 752 removal of the vehicle established by the public utilities 753 commission in rules adopted under division (G) of this section 754 4921.25 of the Revised Code in order to obtain release of the 755 vehicle. That fee may be paid by use of a major credit card 756 unless the towing service uses a mobile credit card processor 757 and mobile service is not available at the time of the 7.58 transaction. Upon payment of that fee, the towing service shall 759

give the vehicle owner or operator a receipt showing both the	760
full amount normally assessed and the actual amount received and	761
shall release the vehicle to the owner or operator. Upon its	762
release, the owner or operator immediately shall move the	763
vehicle so that the vehicle is not parked on the private	764
property established as a private tow-away zone without the	765
consent of the owner of the private property or in violation of	766
any posted parking condition or regulation.	767

(D)(1) Prior to towing a vehicle under division (B) of this section, a towing service shall make all reasonable efforts to take as many photographs as necessary to evidence that the vehicle is clearly parked on private property in violation of a private tow-away zone established under division (A) of this section.

The towing service shall record the time and date of the photographs taken under this section. The towing service shall retain the photographs and the record of the time and date, in electronic or printed form, for at least thirty days after the date on which the vehicle is recovered by the owner or lienholder or at least two years after the date on which the vehicle was towed, whichever is earlier.

- (2) A towing service shall deliver a vehicle towed under

  division (B) of this section to the location from which it may

  be recovered not more than two hours after the time it was

  removed from the private tow-away zone, unless the towing

  service is unable to deliver the motor vehicle within two hours

  due to an uncontrollable force, natural disaster, or other event

  that is not within the power of the towing service.

  781

  782

  783

  784

  785

  786
- (E) (1) If an owner of <u>a private property that is</u>

  788
  established as a private tow-away zone in accordance with

  789

division (A) of this section causes the removal of a vehicle	790
from that property by a towing service under division (B) of	791
this section, the towing service, within two hours of removing	792
the vehicle, shall provide notice to the sheriff of the county	793
or the police department of the municipal corporation, township,	794
or township or joint police district in which the property is	795
located concerning all of the following:	796
(a) The vehicle's license number, make, model, and color;	797
(b) The location from which the vehicle was removed;	798
(c) The date and time the vehicle was removed;	799
(d) The telephone number of the person from whom the	800
vehicle may be recovered;	801
(e) The address of the place from which the vehicle may be	802
recovered.	803
(2) Each county sheriff and each chief of police of a	804
municipal corporation, township, or township or joint police	805
district shall maintain a record of any vehicle removed from	806
private property in the sheriff's or chief's jurisdiction that	807
is established as a private tow-away zone of which the sheriff	808
or chief has received notice under this section. The record	809
shall include all information submitted by the towing service.	810
The sheriff or chief shall provide any information in the record	811
that pertains to a particular vehicle to a person who, either in	812
person or pursuant to a telephone call, identifies self as the	813
owner, operator, or lienholder of the vehicle and requests	814
information pertaining to the vehicle.	815
(F)(1) When a vehicle is removed from private property in	816
accordance with this section, the owner of within three business	817

days of the removal, the towing service or storage facility from

vehicle as provided in that section.

848

which the vehicle may be recovered shall <b>immediately</b> cause a	819
search to be made of the records of the bureau of motor vehicles	820
to ascertain the identity of the owner and any lienholder of the	821
motor vehicle. The registrar of motor vehicles shall ensure that	822
such information is provided in a timely manner. Subject to	823
division (F)(4) of this section, the owner of the towing service	824
or storage facility shall send notice to the vehicle owner and	825
any known lienholder as follows:	826
(a) Within five business days of removal of the vehicle	827
from the private tow-away zone after the registrar of motor	828
vehicles provides the identity of the owner and any lienholder	829
of the motor vehicle, if the vehicle-has not yet been recovered-	830
remains unclaimed, to the owner's and lienholder's last known	831
address by certified or express mail with return receipt	832
requested or by a commercial carrier service utilizing any form	833
of delivery requiring a signed receipt;	834
(b) If the vehicle remains unclaimed thirty days after the	835
first notice is sent, in the manner authorized in required under	836
division (F)(1)(a) of this section;	837
(c) If the vehicle remains unclaimed forty-five days after	838
the first notice is sent, in the manner authorized in required	839
under division (F)(1)(a) of this section.	840
(2) Sixty days after any notice sent pursuant to division	841
(F)(1) of this section is received, as evidenced by a receipt	842
signed by any person, or the towing service or storage facility	843
has been notified that delivery was not possible, the owner of a	844
towing service or storage facility, if authorized under division	845
(B) of section 4505.101 of the Revised Code, may initiate the	846
process for obtaining a certificate of title to the motor	847

(3) A towing service or storage facility that does not	849
receive a signed receipt of notice, or a notification that	850
delivery was not possible, shall not obtain, and shall not	851
attempt to obtain, a certificate of title to the motor vehicle	852
under division (B) of section 4505.101 of the Revised Code.	853
(4) With respect to a vehicle concerning which a towing	854
service or storage facility is not eligible to obtain title	855
under section 4505.101 of the Revised Code, the towing service	856
or storage facility need only comply with the initial notice	857
required under division (F)(1)(a) of this section.	858
(G)(1) The owner or lienholder of a vehicle that is	859
removed under division (B) of this section may reclaim it upon	860
all both of the following:	861
(a) Presentation of proof of ownership, which may be	862
evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, a	863
certificate of registration for the motor vehicle, or a lease	864
agreement;	865
(b) Payment of the following fees:	866
(i) Not more than ninety dollars for the removal of the	867
vehicle. However, if the vehicle has a manufacturer's gross	868
vehicle weight rating in excess of ten thousand pounds and is a	869
truck, bus, or a combination of a commercial tractor and trailer-	870
or semitrailer, not more than one hundred fifty dollars for the	871
removal.	872
(ii) Not more than twelve dollars per twenty-four-hour-	873
period for the storage of the vehicle. However, if the vehicle	874
has a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating in excess of	875
ten thousand pounds and is a truck, bus, or a combination of a	876
commercial tractor and trailer or semitrailer, not more than	877

twenty dollars per twenty four hour period for storage.	878
(iii) All applicable fees established by the public	879
utilities commission in rules adopted under section 4921.25 of	880
the Revised Code, except that the lienholder of a vehicle may	881
retrieve the vehicle without paying any storage fee for the	882
period of time that the vehicle was in the possession of the	883
towing service or storage facility prior to the date the	884
lienholder received the notice sent under division (F)(1)(a) of	885
this section;	886
(ii) If notice has been sent to the owner and lienholder	887
as described in division (F) of this section, a processing fee	888
of twenty-five dollars.	889
(2) A towing service or storage facility in possession of	890
a vehicle that is removed under authority of division (B) of	891
this section shall show the vehicle owner, operator, or	892
lienholder who contests the removal of the vehicle all	893
photographs taken under division (D) of this section. Upon	894
request, the towing service or storage facility shall provide	895
copies a copy of all photographs in the medium in which the	896
photographs are stored, whether paper, electronic, or otherwise.	897
(3) When the owner of a vehicle towed under this section	898
retrieves the vehicle, the towing service or storage facility in	899
possession of the vehicle shall give the owner written notice	900
that if the owner disputes that the motor vehicle was lawfully	901
towed, the owner may be able to file a civil action under	902
section 4513.611 of the Revised Code.	903
(4) Upon presentation of proof of ownership, which may be	904
evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, a	905
certificate of registration for the motor vehicle, or a lease	906

agreement, the owner of a vehicle that is removed under	907
authority of division (B) of this section may retrieve any	908
personal items from the vehicle without retrieving the vehicle	909
and without paying any fee. The owner of the vehicle shall not	910
retrieve any personal items from a vehicle if it would endanger	911
the safety of the owner, unless the owner agrees to sign a	912
<u>waiver of liability.</u> For purposes of division (G) $\frac{(3)}{(4)}$ of this	913
section, "personal items" do not include any items that are	914
attached to the vehicle.	915
(H) No towing service or storage facility person shall	916
remove, or cause the removal of, any vehicle from private	917
property that is established as a private tow-away zone under	918
this $\operatorname{section}_{\mathcal{T}\_{\operatorname{or}}}$ store such a vehicle other than in accordance	919
with this section, or otherwise fail to comply with any	920
applicable requirement of this section.	921
(I) This section does not affect or limit the operation of	922
section 4513.60 or sections 4513.61 to 4613.65 of the Revised	923
Code as they relate to property other than private property that	924
is established as a private tow-away zone under division (A) of	925
this section.	926
(J) The owner of any towing service or storage facility or	927
property owner that Whoever violates division (H) of this	928
section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.	929
(K) As used in this section, "owner of a private property"	930
or "owner of the private property" includes, with respect to a	931
private property, any of the following:	932
(1) Any person who holds title to the property;	933
(2) Any person who is a lessee or sublessee with respect	934

to a lease or sublease agreement for the property;

(3) A person who is authorized to manage the property;	936
(4) A duly authorized agent of any person listed in	937
divisions (K)(1) to (3) of this section.	938
Sec. 4513.61. (A) The sheriff of a county or chief of	939
police of a municipal corporation, township, or township or	940
joint police district, within the sheriff's or chief's	941
respective territorial jurisdiction, or a state highway patrol	942
trooper, upon notification to the sheriff or chief of police of	943
such action and of the location of the place of storage, may	944
order into storage any motor vehicle, including an abandoned	945
junk motor vehicle as defined in section 4513.63 of the Revised	946
Code, that:	947
(1) Has come into the possession of the sheriff, chief of	948
police, or state highway patrol trooper as a result of the	949
performance of the sheriff's, chief's, or trooper's duties; or	950
(2) Has been left on a public street or other property	951
open to the public for purposes of vehicular travel, or upon or	952
within the right-of-way of any road or highway, for forty-eight	953
hours or longer without notification to the sheriff or chief of	954
police of the reasons for leaving the motor vehicle in such	955
place. However, when such a motor vehicle constitutes an	956
obstruction to traffic it may be ordered into storage	957
immediately unless either of the following applies:	958
(a) The vehicle was involved in an accident and is subject	959
to section 4513.66 of the Revised Code;	960
(b) The vehicle is a commercial motor vehicle. If the	961
vehicle is a commercial motor vehicle, the sheriff, chief of	962
police, or state highway patrol trooper shall allow the owner or	963
operator of the vehicle the opportunity to arrange for the	964

removal of the motor vehicle within a period of time specified	965
by the sheriff, chief of police, or state highway patrol	966
rooper. If the sheriff, chief of police, or state highway	967 968
patrol trooper determines that the vehicle cannot be removed	
within the specified period of time, the sheriff, chief of	969
police, or state highway patrol trooper shall order the removal	970
of the vehicle.	971

Subject to division (C) of this section, the sheriff or 972 chief of police shall designate the place of storage of any 973 motor vehicle so ordered removed. 974

- (B) If the sheriff, chief of police, or a state highway 975 patrol trooper issues an order under division (A) of this 976 section and arranges for the removal of a motor vehicle by a 977 towing service, the towing service shall deliver the motor 978 vehicle to the location designated by the sheriff or chief of 979 police not more than two hours after the time it is removed. 980
- (C) (1) The sheriff or chief of police immediately—shall 981 cause a search to be made of the records of the bureau of motor 982 vehicles to ascertain the identity of the owner and any 983 lienholder of a motor vehicle ordered into storage by the 984 sheriff or chief of police, or by a state highway patrol trooper 985 within five business days of the removal of the vehicle. Upon 986 obtaining such identity, the sheriff or chief of police shall 987 send or cause to be sent to the owner or lienholder at the 988 owner's or lienholder's last known address by certified mail 989 with return receipt requested, notice that informs the owner or 990 lienholder that the motor vehicle will be declared a nuisance 991 and disposed of if not claimed within ten days of the date of 992 mailing of the notice. 993
  - (2) The owner or lienholder of the motor vehicle may

reclaim the motor vehicle upon payment of any expenses or	995
charges incurred in its removal and storage, and presentation of	996
proof of ownership, which may be evidenced by a certificate of	997
title or memorandum certificate of title to the motor vehicle, a	998
certificate of registration for the motor vehicle, or a lease	999
agreement. Upon presentation of proof of ownership evidenced as	1000
provided above, the owner of the motor vehicle also may retrieve	1001
any personal items from the vehicle without retrieving the	1002
vehicle and without paying any fee. However, a towing service or	1003
storage facility may charge an after-hours retrieval fee	1004
established by the public utilities commission in rules adopted	1005
under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code if the owner retrieves	1006
the personal items after hours, unless the towing service or	1007
storage facility fails to provide the notice required under	1008
division (B)(3) of section 4513.69 of the Revised Code, if	1009
applicable. However, the owner may shall not retrieve do either	1010
of the following:	1011
(a) Retrieve any personal item that has been determined by	1012
the sheriff, chief of police, or a state highway patrol trooper,	1013
as applicable, to be necessary to a criminal investigation;	1014
(b) Retrieve any personal item from a vehicle if it would	1015
endanger the safety of the owner, unless the owner agrees to	1016
sign a waiver of liability.	1017
For purposes of division (C)(2) of this section, "personal	1018
items" do not include any items that are attached to the	1019
vehicle.	1020
(3) If the owner or lienholder of the motor vehicle	1021
reclaims it after a search of the records of the bureau has been	1022
conducted and after notice has been sent to the owner or	1023

lienholder as described in this section, and the search was

conducted by the owner of the place of storage or the owner's	1025
employee, and the notice was sent to the motor vehicle owner by	1026
the owner of the place of storage or the owner's employee, the	1027
owner or lienholder shall pay to the place of storage a	1028
processing fee of twenty-five dollars, in addition to any	1029
expenses or charges incurred in the removal and storage of the	1030
vehicle.	1031

(D) If the owner or lienholder makes no claim to the motor 1032 vehicle within ten days of the date of mailing of the notice, 1033 and if the vehicle is to be disposed of at public auction as 1034 provided in section 4513.62 of the Revised Code, the sheriff or 1035 chief of police, without charge to any party, shall file with 1036 the clerk of courts of the county in which the place of storage 1037 is located an affidavit showing compliance with the requirements 1038 of this section. Upon presentation of the affidavit, the clerk, 1039 without charge, shall issue a salvage certificate of title, free 1040 and clear of all liens and encumbrances, to the sheriff or chief 1041 of police. If the vehicle is to be disposed of to a motor 1042 vehicle salvage dealer or other facility as provided in section 1043 4513.62 of the Revised Code, the sheriff or chief of police 1044 shall execute in triplicate an affidavit, as prescribed by the 1045 registrar of motor vehicles, describing the motor vehicle and 1046 the manner in which it was disposed of, and that all 1047 requirements of this section have been complied with. The 1048 sheriff or chief of police shall retain the original of the 1049 affidavit for the sheriff's or chief's records, and shall 1050 furnish two copies to the motor vehicle salvage dealer or other 1051 facility. Upon presentation of a copy of the affidavit by the 1052 motor vehicle salvage dealer, the clerk of courts, within thirty 1053 days of the presentation, shall issue to such owner a salvage 1054 certificate of title, free and clear of all liens and 1055

encumbrances.	1056
(E) Whenever a motor vehicle salvage dealer or other	1057
facility receives an affidavit for the disposal of a motor	1058
vehicle as provided in this section, the dealer or facility	1059
shall not be required to obtain an Ohio certificate of title to	1060
the motor vehicle in the dealer's or facility's own name if the	1061
vehicle is dismantled or destroyed and both copies of the	1062
affidavit are delivered to the clerk of courts.	1063
(F) No towing service or storage facility shall fail to	1064
comply with this section.	1065
Sec. 4513.611. (A) As used in this section:	1066
(1) "Minor violation" means any of the following:	1067
(a) Failure to deliver a vehicle to the designated	1068
location within two hours after removal, unless the towing	1069
service was unable to deliver the motor vehicle within two hours	1070
due to an uncontrollable force, natural disaster, or other event	1071
that was not within the power of the towing service, as required	1072
under division (A)(2) of section 4513.60 or division (D)(2) of	1073
section 4513.601 of the Revised Code;	1074
(b) Failure to provide a receipt as required under	1075
division (B) of section 4513.60 or division (C) of section	1076
4513.601 of the Revised Code;	1077
(c) Failure to take a towed vehicle to a location that	1078
meets the requirements of division (A)(2) of section 4513.601 of	1079
the Revised Code as required under that division;	1080
(d) Failure to comply with any photograph-related	1081
requirement established under division (D)(1) or (G)(2) of	1082
soction 4513 601 of the Povised Code. If a court determines that	1083

a towing service or storage facility committed more than one	1084
violation of divisions (D)(1) and (G)(2) of section 4513.601 of	1085
the Revised Code with regard to the same transaction, the court	1086
shall find the towing service or storage facility liable for	1087
only one minor violation under this section.	1088
(e) Failure to send notice to the owner and any lienholder	1089
as required under division (F)(1)(a) of section 4513.601 of the	1090
Revised Code;	1091
(f) Failure to provide an estimate as required under	1092
section 4513.68 of the Revised Code, containing the information	1093
required under that section;	1094
(g) Charging a fee that does not comply with division (C)	1095
of section 4513.68 of the Revised Code if the towing service fee	1096
is required to be reduced under that division;	1097
(h) Failure to post a notice pertaining to fee limitations	1098
as required under division (D) of section 4513.68 of the Revised	1099
Code.	1100
(2) "Major violation" means any of the following:	1101
(a) Failure to give the owner of a vehicle, who arrives	1102
after the owner's vehicle has been prepared for removal but	1103
prior to its actual removal, notification that the owner may pay	1104
a fee of not more than one-half of the fee for the removal of	1105
the vehicle for the immediate release of the vehicle as required	1106
under division (B) of section 4513.60 or division (C) of section	1107
4513.601 of the Revised Code;	1108
(b) Failure to release a vehicle upon payment of not more	1109
than one-half of the fee for the removal of the vehicle as	1110
permitted under division (B) of section 4513.60 or division (C)	1111
of section 4513.601 of the Revised Code;	1112

(c) Refusal to allow a vehicle owner to reclaim the	1113
owner's vehicle upon payment of the applicable fees established	1114
by the public utilities commission and presentation of proof of	1115
ownership as permitted under division (D)(1) of section 4513.60	1116
or division (G)(1) of section 4513.601 of the Revised Code;	1117
(d) Refusal to allow a vehicle owner to retrieve personal	1118
items from the owner's vehicle under circumstances in which the	1119
owner is permitted to retrieve personal items under division (D)	1120
(2) of section 4513.60 or division (G)(4) of section 4513.601 of	1121
the Revised Code;	1122
(e) Failure to provide notice to the appropriate law	1123
enforcement agency within two hours of removing a vehicle as	1124
required under division (E)(1) of section 4513.601 of the	1125
Revised Code;	1126
(f) Failure to send notice that a vehicle has been towed	1127
to the vehicle owner and any known lienholder within thirty days	1128
of removal of the vehicle from a private tow-away zone under	1129
section 4513.601 of the Revised Code. If a court determines that	1130
a towing service or storage facility committed a violation	1131
specified in division (A)(2)(f) of this section and a violation	1132
of division (A)(1)(e) of this section with regard to the same	1133
transaction, the court shall find the towing service or storage	1134
facility liable for only the major violation;	1135
(g) Failure to visibly display the certificate of public	1136
convenience and necessity number as required under division (B)	1137
(1) of section 4513.67 of the Revised Code.	1138
(B)(1) A vehicle owner may bring a civil action in a court	1139
of competent jurisdiction against a towing service or storage	1140
facility that violates section 4513.60, 4513.601, or 4513.68 of	1141

the Revised Code commits a major or minor violation.	1142
(2) If a court determines that the towing service or	1143
storage facility committed the a minor violation, the court	1144
shall award the vehicle owner the following:	1145
(1) (a) If the towing service or storage facility has not	1146
committed a prior minor violation within one year of the minor	1147
violation for which the court has determined the towing service	1148
or storage facility is liable, one hundred fifty dollars.	1149
(b) If the towing service or storage facility has	1150
committed one prior minor violation within one year of the minor	1151
violation for which the court has determined the towing service	1152
or storage facility is liable, three hundred fifty dollars.	1153
(c) If the towing service or storage facility has	1154
committed two prior minor violations within one year of the	1155
minor violation for which the court has determined the towing	1156
service or storage facility is liable, the violation constitutes	1157
a major violation and division (B)(3) of this section applies.	1158
(d) If the towing service or storage facility has	1159
committed three prior minor violations within one year of the	1160
minor violation for which the court has determined the towing	1161
service or storage facility is liable, one thousand five hundred	1162
dollars.	1163
(e) If the towing service or storage facility has	1164
committed four prior minor violations within one year of the	1165
minor violation for which the court has determined the towing	1166
service or storage facility is liable, two thousand dollars.	1167
(f) If the towing service or storage facility has	1168
committed five prior minor violations within one year of the	1169
minor violation for which the court has determined the towing	1170

service or storage facility is liable, the violation constitutes	1171
a major violation and division (B)(3) of this section applies.	1172
(g) If the towing service or storage facility has	1173
committed six or seven prior minor violations within one year of	1174
the minor violation for which the court has determined the	1175
towing service or storage facility is liable, two thousand five	1176
hundred dollars.	1177
(h) If the towing service or storage facility has	1178
committed eight prior minor violations within one year of the	1179
minor violation for which the court has determined the towing	1180
service or storage facility is liable, the violation constitutes	1181
a major violation and division (B)(3) of this section applies.	1182
(3) If a court determines that the towing service or	1183
storage facility committed a major violation, the court shall	1184
award the vehicle owner the following:	1185
(a) If the towing service or storage facility has not	1186
committed any prior $\underline{\text{major}}$ violations within one year of the	1187
<pre>major violation for which the court has determined the towing</pre>	1188
service or storage facility is liable, one thousand dollars;	1189
(2) (b) If the towing service or storage facility has	1190
committed one prior <a href="major">major</a> violation within one year of the <a href="major">major</a>	1191
violation for which the court has determined the towing service	1192
or storage facility is liable, two thousand five hundred	1193
dollars;	1194
(3) (c) If the towing service or storage facility has	1195
committed two prior $\underline{\text{major}}$ violations within one year of the	1196
major_violation_for which the court has determined the towing_	1197
service or storage facility is liable, two three thousand five	1198
hundred dollars. In addition, the court shall order the public	1199

utilities commission to revoke the towing service's or storage	1200
facility's certificate of public convenience and necessity for	1201
six months. The commission shall comply with the order.	1202
(B) Upon expiration of the six-month revocation under	1203
division $\frac{A}{B}(3)$ of this section, a court shall not	1204
consider any violation committed by the towing service or	1205
storage facility prior to the revocation for purposes of a civil	1206
action initiated after the expiration of the six-month	1207
revocation.	1208
(4) If a vehicle owner brings a civil action against a	1209
towing service or storage facility that alleges multiple minor	1210
or major violations, the court shall award, with regard to each	1211
violation for which the towing service or storage facility is	1212
determined to be liable, a civil penalty as required under	1213
division (B)(2) or (3) of this section. The court shall consider	1214
each violation as a separate violation for purposes of	1215
determining how many violations the towing service or storage	1216
facility has committed within one year.	1217
(5) In determining if a towing service or storage facility	1218
has committed prior minor or major violations within the	1219
applicable one-year period, a court shall consider only	1220
violations that have been determined by a court of competent	1221
jurisdiction to have been committed by the towing service or	1222
storage facility.	1223
(C) In addition to an award made under division $\frac{A}{A}$ of	1224
this section, if a court determines that a towing service or	1225
storage facility committed a violation that caused actual	1226
damages, the court shall award the vehicle owner three times the	1227
actual damages and reasonable attorney's fees.	1228

(D) A court that issues a judgment under this section_	1229
against a towing service or storage facility shall send a copy	1230
of that judgment to the public utilities commission. The	1231
commission shall provide a copy of the judgment upon request.	1232
Committee to the stagment upon request.	1232
Sec. 4513.612. (A) (1) No towing service shall knowingly	1233
offer or provide monetary compensation in exchange for the	1234
authorization to tow motor vehicles from a specified location or	1235
on behalf of the person to whom the towing service offered or	1236
provided the compensation.	1237
(2) Division (A)(1) of this section does not prohibit a	1238
towing service from negotiating or reducing towing and storage	1239
fees.	1240
(B) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is	1241
guilty of a minor misdemeanor.	1242
Sec. 4513.67. (A) As used in this section, "towing	1243
service" means any for-hire motor carrier that is engaged on an	1244
intrastate basis anywhere in this state in the business of	1245
towing a motor vehicle over any public highway in this state.	1246
(B) No <del>person shall operate a towing vehicle for a towing</del>	1247
service and no person who owns a towing vehicle used by a towing	1248
service or has supervisory responsibility over a towing vehicle	1249
used by a towing service, shall permit the operation of a towing	1250
vehicle used by a on behalf of the towing service, unless both	1251
of the following apply:	1252
(1) The towing service holds a valid certificate of public	1253
convenience and necessity as required by Chapter 4921. of the	1254
Revised Code; and	1255
(2) The certificate number and business telephone number	1256
is visibly displayed on both the left and right sides of the	1257

towing vehicle.	1258
(C)(1) No towing service shall do either of the following:	1259
(a) Fail to make its current certificate of public	1260
convenience and necessity available for public inspection during	1261
normal business hours;	1262
(b) Fail to include its certificate number on all written	1263
estimates, contracts, invoices, and, subject to division (C)(2)	1264
of this section, advertising.	1265
(2) The public utilities commission, by rule, may exempt	1266
from the requirements of division (C)(1) of this section any	1267
type of advertising where the size or nature of the	1268
advertisement makes it unreasonable to add a certificate number.	1269
(D)(1) Except as provided in division (D)(2) of this	1270
section, whoever violates division (B)(1) of this section is	1271
guilty of a minor misdemeanor. A towing service that is issued a	1272
citation for a violation of division (B)(1) of this section is	1273
not permitted to enter a written plea of guilty and waive the	1274
right to contest the citation in a trial but instead must	1275
designate an agent to appear in person in the proper court to	1276
answer the charge. If the towing service is convicted of or	1277
pleads guilty to the offense, the court shall notify the towing	1278
service that a subsequent offense will result in the seizure and	1279
impoundment of any tow truck that is used to tow vehicles on	1280
behalf of the towing service until the towing service obtains a	1281
certificate of public convenience and necessity.	1282
(2) If a towing service previously has been convicted of	1283
or pleaded guilty to a violation of division (B)(1) of this	1284
section, a violation of division (B)(1) of this section is a	1285
misdemeanor and, notwithstanding sections 2929.24 to 2929.28 of	1286

the Revised Code, the court shall impose upon the towing service	1287
a fine of five hundred dollars. The court shall require the	1288
towing service to disclose the license plate number of every	1289
vehicle used to tow vehicles on behalf of the towing service and	1290
the court shall order an appropriate law enforcement agency to	1291
seize and impound all such vehicles. Upon presentation of a	1292
certificate of public convenience and necessity for the towing	1293
service, the court shall terminate the order and the law	1294
enforcement agency in possession of the vehicles shall release	1295
the vehicles.	1296
(3) The offense established under division (B)(1) of this	1297
section is a strict liability offense and strict liability is a	1298
culpable mental state for purposes of section 2901.20 of the	1299
Revised Code. The designation of this offense as a strict	1300
liability offense shall not be construed to imply that any other	1301
offense, for which there is no specified degree of culpability,	1302
is not a strict liability offense.	1303
Sec. 4513.68. (A) If a towing service is removing a motor	1304
vehicle, and the removal was not authorized under section	1305
4513.60, 4513.601, 4513.61, or 4513.66 of the Revised Code,	1306
prior to removing the motor vehicle, the towing service shall	1307
provide a written estimate of the price for the removal to the	1308
operator of the motor vehicle <del>-unless the operator is-</del>	1309
incapacitated, seriously injured, or otherwise unavailable to-	1310
accept the estimate. The towing service shall not submit such an	1311
accept the estimate. The towing service shall not submit such an estimate to any repair facility or storage facility to which the	1311 1312
estimate to any repair facility or storage facility to which the	1312
estimate to any repair facility or storage facility to which the motor vehicle is transported unless the operator of the motor	1312 1313

(B) The towing service shall ensure that any estimate

provided under division (A) of this section includes the fees,	1317
services to be rendered, and destination of the vehicle.	1318
(C) If a towing service fails to provide a written	1319
estimate as required by this section, the towing service shall	1320
not charge fees for the towing and storage of the motor vehicle	1321
that exceed twenty-five per cent of the any applicable fees	1322
authorized established by the public utilities commission in	1323
rules adopted under division (G)(1)(b) of section 4513.601	1324
division (B)(4) of section 4921.25 of the Revised Code for a	1325
motor vehicle removed from a private tow-away zone or, if the	1326
vehicle was towed within a municipal corporation that has	1327
established vehicle removal and storage fees, twenty-five per	1328
cent of the fees established by the municipal corporation.	1329
(D) Any storage facility that accepts towed vehicles shall	1330
conspicuously post a notice at the entrance to the storage	1331
facility that states the limitation on fees established under	1332
division (C) of this section.	1333
Sec. 4513.69. (A) The owner of a A storage facility shall	1334
ensure that the facility remains open during both of the	1335
following periods of time to allow a vehicle owner or lienholder	1336
to retrieve a vehicle in the possession of the storage facility:	1337
(1) Any time during which a towing service is towing a	1338
vehicle pursuant to section $4513.60$ , $4513.601$ , or $4513.61$ of the	1339
Revised Code and the vehicle will be held by the storage	1340
facility;	1341
(2) Between nine o'clock in the morning and noon on the	1342
day after any day during which the storage facility accepted for	1343
storage a vehicle towed under section 4513.60, 4513.601, or	1344
4513.61 of the Revised Code.	1345

4513.61 of the Revised Code shall ensure that a notice is conspicuously posted at the entrance to the storage facility that states the telephone number at which the owner or lienholder of a vehicle may contact the owner or a representative of the storage facility for the purpose of retrieving determining whether the person may retrieve a vehicle or personal items when the storage facility is closed. The owner of the storage facility also shall provide that telephone number to the sheriff of a county or chief of police of a municipal corporation, township, or township or joint police district. The owner of the storage facility shall ensure that a process is in place for purposes of answering calls at all times day or night.  (2) After receiving a call from the owner or lienholder of a vehicle who seeks to recover the a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.601 of the Revised Code, the owner of the storage facility shall ensure that, within three hours of receiving the phone call, a representative of the storage facility is available to release the vehicle upon being presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, or a lease agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  13:  13:  13: 13: 14: 15: 16: 17: 18: 18: 18: 18: 18: 18: 18: 18: 18: 18	(B)(1)—The owner of a $\underline{A}$ storage facility that accepts for	1346
that states the telephone number at which the owner or lienholder of a vehicle may contact the owner or a representative of the storage facility for the purpose of retrieving determining whether the person may retrieve a vehicle or personal items when the storage facility is closed. The owner of the storage facility also shall provide that telephone number to the sheriff of a county or chief of police of a municipal corporation, township, or township or joint police district. The owner of the storage facility shall ensure that a process is in place for purposes of answering calls at all times day or night.  (2) After receiving a call from the owner or lienholder of a vehicle who seeks to recover the a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.601 of the Revised Code, the owner of the-storage facility shall ensure that, within three hours of receiving the phone call, a representative of the storage facility is available to release the vehicle upon being presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, or a lease agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.60 of the Revised Code  13:	storage vehicles towed under section 4513.60, 4513.601, or	1347
that states the telephone number at which the owner or lienholder of a vehicle may contact the owner or a representative of the storage facility for the purpose of retrieving determining whether the person may retrieve a vehicle or personal items when the storage facility is closed. The owner of the storage facility also shall provide that telephone number to the sheriff of a county or chief of police of a municipal corporation, township, or township or joint police district. The owner of the storage facility shall ensure that a process is in place for purposes of answering calls at all times day or night.  (2) After receiving a call from the owner or lienholder of a vehicle who seeks to recover the a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.601 of the Revised Code, the owner of the-storage facility shall ensure that, within three hours of receiving the phone call, a representative of the storage facility is available to release the vehicle upon being presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, or a lease agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  13:	4513.61 of the Revised Code shall ensure that a notice is	1348
lienholder of a vehicle may contact the owner or a  133 representative of the storage facility for the purpose of  retrieving determining whether the person may retrieve a vehicle or personal items when the storage facility is closed. The owner of the storage facility also shall provide that telephone number to the sheriff of a county or chief of police of a municipal corporation, township, or township or joint police district. The owner of the storage facility shall ensure that a process is in place for purposes of answering calls at all times day or night.  (2) After receiving a call from the owner or lienholder of a vehicle who seeks to recover the a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.601 of the Revised Code, the owner of the storage facility shall ensure that, within three hours of receiving the phone call, a representative of the storage facility is available to release the vehicle upon being presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, or a lease agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  13:	conspicuously posted at the entrance to the storage facility	1349
representative of the storage facility for the purpose of  retrieving determining whether the person may retrieve a vehicle or personal items when the storage facility is closed. The owner of the storage facility also shall provide that telephone number to the sheriff of a county or chief of police of a municipal corporation, township, or township or joint police district. The owner of the storage facility shall ensure that a process is in place for purposes of answering calls at all times day or night.  (2) After receiving a call from the owner or lienholder of a vehicle who seeks to recover the a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.601 of the Revised Code, the owner of the storage facility shall ensure that, within three hours of receiving the phone call, a representative of the storage facility is available to release the vehicle upon being presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, or a lease agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  13:	that states the telephone number at which the owner or	1350
retrieving determining whether the person may retrieve a vehicle or personal items when the storage facility is closed. The owner of the storage facility also shall provide that telephone number to the sheriff of a county or chief of police of a municipal corporation, township, or township or joint police district. The owner of the storage facility shall ensure that a process is in place for purposes of answering calls at all times day or night.  (2) After receiving a call from the owner or lienholder of a vehicle who seeks to recover the a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.601 of the Revised Code, the owner of the storage facility shall ensure that, within three hours of receiving the phone call, a representative of the storage facility is available to release the vehicle upon being presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, or a lease agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code	lienholder of a vehicle may contact the owner or a	1351
or personal items when the storage facility is closed. The owner of the storage facility also shall provide that telephone number to the sheriff of a county or chief of police of a municipal corporation, township, or township or joint police district. The owner of the storage facility shall ensure that a process is in place for purposes of answering calls at all times day or night.  (2) After receiving a call from the owner or lienholder of a vehicle who seeks to recover the a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.601 of the Revised Code, the owner of the storage facility shall ensure that, within three hours of receiving the phone call, a representative of the storage facility is available to release the vehicle upon being presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, or a lease agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code	representative of the storage facility for the purpose of	1352
of the storage facility also shall provide that telephone number to the sheriff of a county or chief of police of a municipal corporation, township, or township or joint police district. The where of the storage facility shall ensure that a process is in place for purposes of answering calls at all times day or night.  (2) After receiving a call from the owner or lienholder of a vehicle who seeks to recover the a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.601 of the Revised Code, the owner of the storage facility shall ensure that, within three hours of receiving the phone call, a representative of the storage facility is available to release the vehicle upon being presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, or a lease agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  13: towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  13:  14: 15: 16: 17: 18: 18: 18: 18: 18: 18: 18: 18: 18: 18	retrieving determining whether the person may retrieve a vehicle	1353
to the sheriff of a county or chief of police of a municipal  corporation, township, or township or joint police district. The  owner of the storage facility shall ensure that a process is in  place for purposes of answering calls at all times day or night.  (2) After receiving a call from the owner or lienholder of  a vehicle who seeks to recover the a vehicle that was towed  pursuant to section 4513.601 of the Revised Code, the owner of  the storage facility shall ensure that, within three hours of  receiving the phone call, a representative of the storage  facility is available to release the vehicle upon being  presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be  evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, or a lease  agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee  established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along  with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person  who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was  towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  13:  13:  13:  14:  15:  16:  17:  18:  18:  18:  18:  18:  18:  18	or personal items when the storage facility is closed. The owner	1354
corporation, township, or township or joint police district. The  cwner of the storage facility shall ensure that a process is in  place for purposes of answering calls at all times day or night.  (2) After receiving a call from the owner or lienholder of  a vehicle who seeks to recover the a vehicle that was towed  pursuant to section 4513.601 of the Revised Code, the cwner of  the storage facility shall ensure that, within three hours of  receiving the phone call, a representative of the storage  facility is available to release the vehicle upon being  presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be  evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, a  certificate of registration for the motor vehicle, or a lease  agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee  established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along  with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person  who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was  towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  13:  13:  13:  14:  15:  16:  17:  18:  18:  18:  18:  18:  18:  18	of the storage facility also shall provide that telephone number	1355
owner of the storage facility shall ensure that a process is in place for purposes of answering calls at all times day or night.  (2) After receiving a call from the owner or lienholder of a vehicle who seeks to recover the a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.601 of the Revised Code, the owner of the storage facility shall ensure that, within three hours of receiving the phone call, a representative of the storage facility is available to release the vehicle upon being presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, a certificate of registration for the motor vehicle, or a lease agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code 13	to the sheriff of a county or chief of police of a municipal	1356
place for purposes of answering calls at all times day or night.  (2) After receiving a call from the owner or lienholder of a vehicle who seeks to recover the—a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.601 of the Revised Code, the owner of the—storage facility shall ensure that, within three hours of receiving the phone call, a representative of the storage facility is available to release the vehicle upon being presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, a certificate of registration for the motor vehicle, or a lease agreement, and payment of an after—hours vehicle retrieval fee established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and—along with_all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  13:  13:  13:  14:  15:  16:  17:  18:  18:  18:  18:  18:  18:  18	corporation, township, or township or joint police district. The	1357
(2) After receiving a call from the owner or lienholder of a vehicle who seeks to recover the a vehicle that was towed  pursuant to section 4513.601 of the Revised Code, the owner of the storage facility shall ensure that, within three hours of receiving the phone call, a representative of the storage facility is available to release the vehicle upon being presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, a certificate of registration for the motor vehicle, or a lease agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  13:	owner of the storage facility shall ensure that a process is in	1358
a vehicle who seeks to recover the a vehicle that was towed  pursuant to section 4513.601 of the Revised Code, the owner of  the storage facility shall ensure that, within three hours of receiving the phone call, a representative of the storage facility is available to release the vehicle upon being presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, a certificate of registration for the motor vehicle, or a lease agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  130  131  132  133  134  135  136  137  137  138  139  130  130  130  130  131  131  131	place for purposes of answering calls at all times day or night.	1359
pursuant to section 4513.601 of the Revised Code, the owner of  the storage facility shall ensure that, within three hours of receiving the phone call, a representative of the storage facility is available to release the vehicle upon being presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, a certificate of registration for the motor vehicle, or a lease agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code	(2) After receiving a call from the owner or lienholder of	1360
the storage facility shall ensure that, within three hours of receiving the phone call, a representative of the storage facility is available to release the vehicle upon being presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, a certificate of registration for the motor vehicle, or a lease agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code	a vehicle who seeks to recover the a vehicle that was towed	1361
receiving the phone call, a representative of the storage  facility is available to release the vehicle upon being  presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be  evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, a  certificate of registration for the motor vehicle, or a lease  agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee  established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along  with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person  who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was  towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  130	pursuant to section 4513.601 of the Revised Code, the owner of	1362
facility is available to release the vehicle upon being  presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be  evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, a  certificate of registration for the motor vehicle, or a lease  agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee  established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along  with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person  who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was  towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  130	the—storage facility shall ensure that, within three hours of	1363
presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, a  certificate of registration for the motor vehicle, or a lease agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person  who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  130  131  132  133  134  135  136  137  137  138  138  139  139  139  139  139  139	receiving the phone call, a representative of the storage	1364
evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, a  certificate of registration for the motor vehicle, or a lease  agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee  established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along  with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person  who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was  towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  130  131  132  133  134  135  136  137  137  138  138  139  139  139  139  139  139	facility is available to release the vehicle upon being	1365
certificate of registration for the motor vehicle, or a lease  agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee  established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along  with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person  who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was  towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  130  131  132  133  134  135  136  136  137  137  138  138  139  139  139  139  139  139	presented with proof of ownership of the vehicle, which may be	1366
agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee  established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along  with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person  who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was  towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  130  131  132  133  134  135  136  136  137	evidenced by a certificate of title to the vehicle, a	1367
established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person 13 who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was 13 towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code 13	certificate of registration for the motor vehicle, or a lease	1368
with all other applicable fees.  (3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person  who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was  towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  13'	agreement, and payment of an after-hours vehicle retrieval fee	1369
(3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person  who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was  towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  13'	established under section 4921.25 of the Revised Code and along	1370
who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was  towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code  137	<pre>with all other applicable fees.</pre>	1371
towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code 13	(3) If a storage facility receives a call from a person	1372
	who seeks to recover personal items from a vehicle that was	1373
and the storage facility is not open to the public, the storage 13	towed pursuant to section 4513.60 or 4513.61 of the Revised Code	1374
	and the storage facility is not open to the public, the storage	1375

facility shall notify the person that an after-hours retrieval

fee applies and shall state the amount of the fee as established	1377
by the public utilities commission in rules adopted under	1378
section 4921.25 of the Revised Code. The storage facility shall	1379
allow the person to retrieve personal items in accordance with	1380
division (D)(2) of section 4513.60 or division (C)(2) of section	1381
4513.61 of the Revised Code, but shall not charge an after-hours	1382
retrieval fee unless notice is provided in accordance with this	1383
division.	1384
(C) No <del>owner of a storage facility shall fail to comply</del>	1385
with division (A) or (B) of this section.	1386
Sec. 4513.70. (A) An insurance company may commence a	1387
civil action against a towing service on its own behalf, on	1388
behalf of the holder of a policy of automobile insurance, or on	1389
behalf of a motor vehicle owner seeking the recovery of a motor	1390
vehicle that has been towed and for which a claim has been filed	1391
with the insurance company, objecting to the amount billed by	1392
the towing service, or both. The insurance company shall file	1393
the action in the municipal or county court with territorial	1394
jurisdiction over the location from which the vehicle was towed	1395
within thirty days of receipt of the bill for towing services	1396
from the towing service. If the insurance company objects to the	1397
amount billed by the towing service, the complaint shall include	1398
the amount of the bill that is undisputed and the reasons the	1399
insurance company objects to the remainder of the bill. The	1400
insurance company shall file, along with the complaint, a copy	1401
of the bill and any evidence supporting the assertion that the	1402
billed amount is unreasonable. If the insurance company seeks	1403
the recovery of the vehicle, the insurance company shall pay to	1404
the towing service the undisputed amount of the bill.	1405

(B) Upon receipt of payment of the undisputed amount of

service of a complaint filed under division (A) of this section,	1408
the towing service shall release the vehicle that is the subject	1409
of the complaint to the owner of the vehicle or to a	1410
representative of the insurance company that filed the	1411
complaint. If the towing service fails to release the vehicle as	1412
required under this division, the court may issue an order that	1413
imposes a penalty of up to one hundred dollars per day against a	1414
towing service for each day the towing service violates that	1415
division. The towing service shall pay any fines assessed under	1416
this section to the clerk of courts.	1417
(C) The court shall make a determination as to whether the	1418
amount charged by the towing service is unreasonable. If the	1419
court determines that the amount is reasonable, the court shall	1420
order the insurance company to pay the amount billed minus the	1421
undisputed amount that the insurance company paid to the towing	1422
service under division (B) of this section if a payment was made	1423
under that division. If the court determines that the amount	1424
charged was unreasonable, the court shall determine a reasonable	1425
amount and order the insurance company to pay that amount minus	1426
the undisputed amount that the insurance company paid to the	1427
towing service under division (B) of this section if a payment	1428
was made under that division. The court also may require either	1429
party to pay any additional amount and may impose any monetary	1430
penalties the court determines to be appropriate.	1431
Sec. 4921.25. (A) Any person, firm, copartnership,	1432
voluntary association, joint-stock association, company, or	1433
corporation, wherever organized or incorporated, that is engaged	1434
in the towing of motor vehicles is subject to regulation by the	1435
public utilities commission as a for-hire motor carrier under	1436
this chapter.	1437

the bill and not later than two business days after receiving

(B) The commission shall adopt rules under Chapter $\frac{111.}{}$	1438
119. of the Revised Code that do all of the following:	1439
(1) Establish the acceptable scope of public safety	1440
regulations applicable to a for-hire motor carrier engaged in	1441
the towing of motor vehicles under section 4513.60, 4513.601, or	1442
4513.61 of the Revised Code that a county or township may adopt	1443
pursuant to a resolution;	1444
(2) Establish safety standards for the type of equipment	1445
necessary to safely remove and tow vehicles based on the type of	1446
vehicle being removed or towed;	1447
(3) Establish standards for the removal of a vehicle from	1448
a private tow-away zone by a for-hire motor carrier engaged in	1449
the towing of motor vehicles in addition to standards and	1450
requirements established under section 4513.601 of the Revised	1451
Code. The standards may vary based on whether the private tow-	1452
away zone is located on residential, retail, or other commercial	1453
property.	1454
(4) Establish an Within one year of the effective date of	1455
this amendment, establish maximum fees that may be charged by a	1456
for-hire motor carrier engaged in the towing of motor vehicles	1457
or a storage facility that accepts such vehicles under sections	1458
4513.60 and 4513.601 of the Revised Code.	1459
With respect to vehicles removed under section 4513.60 of	1460
the Revised Code, the fees established under division (B)(4) of	1461
this section do not apply to a vehicle that is removed or stored	1462
within a municipal corporation that has established fees for	1463
vehicle removal and storage.	1464
(5) Establish a process for reviewing the fees established	1465
under division (B)(4) of this section every five years,	1466

beginning on the five-year anniversary of the date the initial	1467
rules are adopted, to determine whether the fees are just,	1468
reasonable, and compensatory. If the commission determines that	1469
any existing fee is not just, reasonable, or compensatory, the	1470
commission shall, by rule, adjust the fee so that it is equal to	1471
an amount that the commission determines to be appropriate.	1472
(6) Establish an after-hours retrieval fee that may be	1473
<pre>charged for purposes of retrieving a vehicle under section</pre>	1474
4513.69 of the Revised Code+	1475
(5) or retrieving personal items under section 4513.60 or	1476
4513.61 of the Revised Code. The rules shall permit an after-	1477
hours retrieval fee to be charged only if the entity in	1478
possession of a vehicle is not open to the public and is not	1479
required to be open under division (A) of section 4513.69 of the	1480
Revised Code.	1481
(7) Adopt any other rules necessary to carry out the	1482
purposes of this section.	1483
Section 2. That existing sections 4505.101, 4505.11,	1484
4513.60, 4513.601, 4513.61, 4513.611, 4513.67, 4513.68, 4513.69,	1485
and 4921.25 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.	1486
Section 3. (A) Commencing on the effective date of this	1487
act, and until the public utilities commission adopts rules	1488
under division (B)(4) of section 4921.25 of the Revised Code, a	1489
towing service shall charge not more than the following for the	1490
removal and storage of a vehicle under section 4513.60 or	1491
4513.601 of the Revised Code:	1492
(1) A maximum fee for the removal of a vehicle equal to	1493
ninety dollars; or for a vehicle that has a manufacturer's gross	1494
vehicle weight rating in excess of ten thousand pounds that is a	1495

as presented in this act.

1518

truck, bus, or a combination of commercial tractor and trailer	1496
or semitrailer, a maximum fee equal to one hundred fifty	1497
dollars;	1498
(2) A maximum storage fee equal to twelve dollars per	1499
twenty-four-hour period; or for a vehicle that has a	1500
manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating in excess of ten	1501
thousand pounds that is a truck, bus, or a combination of	1502
commercial tractor and trailer or semitrailer, a maximum storage	1503
fee equal to twenty dollars per twenty-four-hour period.	1504
(B) Notwithstanding division (A) of this section, with	1505
regard to a vehicle that is removed under section 4513.60 of the	1506
Revised Code within a municipal corporation that has established	1507
fees for vehicle removal and storage, a towing service may	1508
charge those fees, if applicable.	1509
Section 4. Section 4505.11 of the Revised Code is	1510
presented in this act as a composite of the section as amended	1511
by both Sub. H.B. 468 and Am. Sub. S.B. 274 of the 130th General	1512
Assembly. The General Assembly, applying the principle stated in	1513
division (B) of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that amendments	1514
are to be harmonized if reasonably capable of simultaneous	1515
operation, finds that the composite is the resulting version of	1516
the section in effect prior to the effective date of the section	1517