

**As Introduced**

**132nd General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2017-2018**

**H. B. No. 698**

**Representative Edwards**

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**A BILL**

To amend sections 4503.47, 4503.471, 4503.71, and 1  
4503.711 of the Revised Code to eliminate the 2  
Bureau of Motor Vehicles administrative fee for 3  
nonstandard license plates related to 4  
firefighters and police officers. 5

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

**Section 1.** That sections 4503.47, 4503.471, 4503.71, and 6  
4503.711 of the Revised Code be amended to read as follows: 7

**Sec. 4503.47.** (A) Any person who is a volunteer 8  
firefighter may apply to the registrar of motor vehicles for the 9  
registration of one passenger car or other vehicle of a class 10  
approved by the registrar the person owns or leases. The 11  
application shall be accompanied by such written evidence as the 12  
registrar may require by rule, that the person is a volunteer 13  
firefighter. 14

Upon receipt of an application for the registration of a 15  
passenger car or other vehicle of a class approved by the 16  
registrar under this section and presentation of satisfactory 17  
evidence of such volunteer firefighter status, the registrar 18  
shall issue to the applicant the appropriate vehicle 19

registration and a set of license plates and a validation 20  
sticker, or a validation sticker alone when required by section 21  
4503.191 of the Revised Code. In addition to the letters and 22  
numbers ordinarily inscribed thereon, the license plates shall 23  
be inscribed with the letters "F.D." inside a Maltese cross 24  
emblem. The license plates and validation stickers shall be 25  
issued upon payment of the regular license fees as prescribed 26  
under section 4503.04 of the Revised Code and any local motor 27  
vehicle tax levied under Chapter 4504. of the Revised Code, ~~and~~ 28  
~~upon the payment of an additional fee of ten dollars for~~ 29  
~~issuance under this section. The fee shall be for the purpose of~~ 30  
~~compensating the bureau of motor vehicles for additional~~ 31  
~~services required in the issuing of such license plates, and~~ 32  
~~shall be transmitted by the registrar to the treasurer of state~~ 33  
~~for deposit in the public safety highway purposes fund created~~ 34  
~~by section 4501.06 of the Revised Code. No person shall apply~~ 35  
for more than one set of volunteer firefighter license plates 36  
annually. 37

The chief of a fire department or the fire chief shall 38  
immediately notify the registrar whenever any person under the 39  
chief's supervision is no longer a volunteer firefighter. 40

Whenever a person is no longer eligible to be issued 41  
volunteer firefighter license plates, the person shall surrender 42  
the volunteer firefighter license plates to the bureau in 43  
exchange for plates without the "F.D." emblem. A fee of five 44  
dollars shall be charged for the services required in the 45  
issuing of replacement plates when an individual is no longer 46  
eligible to be issued volunteer firefighter license plates. 47

Application for volunteer firefighter license plates may 48  
be made, and such license plates and replacement plates shall be 49

issued, at any time of year. 50

No person who is not a volunteer firefighter shall 51  
willfully and falsely represent that the person is a volunteer 52  
firefighter for the purpose of obtaining volunteer firefighter 53  
license plates under this section. No person shall own a vehicle 54  
bearing such license plates unless the person is eligible to be 55  
issued such license plates. 56

(B) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a 57  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. 58

**Sec. 4503.471.** (A) Any person who is a member in good 59  
standing of the international association of firefighters may 60  
apply to the registrar of motor vehicles for the registration of 61  
any passenger car, noncommercial vehicle, recreational vehicle, 62  
or other vehicle of a class approved by the registrar that the 63  
person owns or leases and the issuance of international 64  
association of firefighters license plates. The application 65  
shall be accompanied by the written evidence that the registrar 66  
may require by rule showing that the person is a member in good 67  
standing of the international association of firefighters. The 68  
application for international association of firefighters 69  
license plates may be combined with a request for a special 70  
reserved license plate under section 4503.40 or 4503.42 of the 71  
Revised Code. 72

Upon receipt of an application for registration of a 73  
vehicle under this section and presentation of satisfactory 74  
evidence showing that the person is a member in good standing of 75  
the international association of firefighters, the registrar 76  
shall issue to the applicant the appropriate vehicle 77  
registrations, sets of license plates and validation stickers, 78  
or validation stickers alone when required by section 4503.191 79

of the Revised Code. 80

In addition to the letters and numbers ordinarily 81  
inscribed on the license plates, international association of 82  
firefighters license plates shall be inscribed with a Maltese 83  
cross emblem designed by the international association of 84  
firefighters and approved by the registrar. International 85  
association of firefighters license plates shall bear county 86  
identification stickers that identify the county of registration 87  
as required under section 4503.19 of the Revised Code. 88

The license plates and validation stickers shall be issued 89  
upon payment of the regular license fee as prescribed under 90  
section 4503.04 of the Revised Code, and payment of any local 91  
motor vehicle tax levied under Chapter 4504. of the Revised 92  
Code, ~~and payment of an additional fee of ten dollars for the~~ 93  
~~purpose of compensating the bureau of motor vehicles for~~ 94  
~~additional services required in the issuing of license plates~~ 95  
~~under this section.~~ If the application for international 96  
association of firefighters license plates is combined with a 97  
request for a special reserved license plate under section 98  
4503.40 or 4503.42 of the Revised Code, the license plate and 99  
validation sticker shall be issued upon payment of the fees and 100  
taxes contained in this division and the additional fee 101  
prescribed under section 4503.40 or 4503.42 of the Revised Code. 102  
~~The registrar shall deposit the additional fee of ten dollars in~~ 103  
~~the public safety - highway purposes fund created by section~~ 104  
~~4501.06 of the Revised Code.~~ 105

Whenever a person no longer is eligible to be issued 106  
international association of firefighters license plates, the 107  
person shall surrender the international association of 108  
firefighters license plates to the bureau in exchange for 109

license plates without the Maltese cross emblem described in 110  
this section. A fee of five dollars shall be charged for the 111  
services required in the issuing of replacement plates when a 112  
person no longer is eligible to be issued international 113  
association of firefighters license plates. 114

A person may make application for international 115  
association of firefighters license plates at any time of year, 116  
and the registrar shall issue international association of 117  
firefighters license plates and replacement plates at any time 118  
of year. 119

(B) No person who is not a member in good standing of the 120  
international association of firefighters shall willfully and 121  
falsely represent that the person is a member in good standing 122  
of the international association of firefighters for the purpose 123  
of obtaining international association of firefighters license 124  
plates under this section. No person shall own or lease a 125  
vehicle bearing international association of firefighters 126  
license plates unless the person is eligible to be issued 127  
international association of firefighters license plates. 128

(C) Whoever violates division (B) of this section is 129  
guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. 130

**Sec. 4503.71.** (A) The owner or lessee of any passenger 131  
car, noncommercial motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, or other 132  
vehicle of a class approved by the registrar of motor vehicles 133  
who also is a member in good standing of the fraternal order of 134  
police may apply to the registrar for the registration of the 135  
vehicle and issuance of fraternal order of police license 136  
plates. The application for fraternal order of police license 137  
plates may be combined with a request for a special reserved 138  
license plate under section 4503.40 or 4503.42 of the Revised 139

Code. Upon receipt of the completed application, presentation by 140  
the applicant of the required evidence that the applicant is a 141  
member in good standing of the fraternal order of police, and 142  
compliance by the applicant with this section, the registrar 143  
shall issue to the applicant the appropriate vehicle 144  
registration and a set of fraternal order of police license 145  
plates with a validation sticker or a validation sticker alone 146  
when required by section 4503.191 of the Revised Code. 147

In addition to the letters and numbers ordinarily 148  
inscribed thereon, fraternal order of police license plates 149  
shall be inscribed with identifying words and a symbol or logo 150  
designed by the fraternal order of police of Ohio, incorporated, 151  
and approved by the registrar. Fraternal order of police license 152  
plates shall bear county identification stickers that identify 153  
the county of registration as required under section 4503.19 of 154  
the Revised Code. 155

Fraternal order of police license plates and validation 156  
stickers shall be issued upon payment of the regular license fee 157  
required by section 4503.04 of the Revised Code, payment of any 158  
local motor vehicle license tax levied under Chapter 4504. of 159  
the Revised Code, ~~payment of a fee of ten dollars,~~ and 160  
compliance with all other applicable laws relating to the 161  
registration of motor vehicles. If the application for fraternal 162  
order of police license plates is combined with a request for a 163  
special reserved license plate under section 4503.40 or 4503.42 164  
of the Revised Code, the license plates and validation sticker 165  
shall be issued upon payment of the fees and taxes contained in 166  
this section and the additional fee prescribed under section 167  
4503.40 or 4503.42 of the Revised Code. ~~The fee of ten dollars~~ 168  
~~shall be for the purpose of compensating the bureau of motor~~ 169  
~~vehicles for additional services required in the issuing of~~ 170

~~fraternal order of police license plates, and shall be~~ 171  
~~transmitted by the registrar to the treasurer of state for~~ 172  
~~deposit into the state treasury to the credit of the public~~ 173  
~~safety highway purposes fund created by section 4501.06 of the~~ 174  
~~Revised Code.~~ 175

(B) For each application for registration and registration 176  
renewal the registrar receives under this section, the registrar 177  
shall collect an additional fee of two dollars. The registrar 178  
shall transmit this additional fee to the treasurer of state for 179  
deposit in the license plate contribution fund created in 180  
section 4501.21 of the Revised Code. 181

**Sec. 4503.711.** (A) The owner or lessee of any passenger 182  
car, noncommercial motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, or other 183  
vehicle of a class approved by the registrar of motor vehicles 184  
who is a member in good standing of the fraternal order of 185  
police associates of Ohio, inc., may apply to the registrar for 186  
the registration of the vehicle and issuance of fraternal order 187  
of police associate license plates. The application for 188  
fraternal order of police associate license plates may be 189  
combined with a request for a special reserved license plate 190  
under section 4503.40 or 4503.42 of the Revised Code. Upon 191  
receipt of the completed application, presentation by the 192  
applicant of the required evidence that the applicant is a 193  
member in good standing of the fraternal order of police 194  
associates of Ohio, inc., and compliance with division (B) of 195  
this section, the registrar shall issue to the applicant the 196  
appropriate vehicle registration and a set of fraternal order of 197  
police associate license plates with a validation sticker or a 198  
validation sticker alone when required by section 4503.191 of 199  
the Revised Code. 200

In addition to the letters and numbers ordinarily 201  
inscribed thereon, fraternal order of police associate license 202  
plates shall be inscribed with identifying words or markings 203  
designed by the fraternal order of police of Ohio, inc., and 204  
approved by the registrar. Fraternal order of police associate 205  
plates shall bear county identification stickers that identify 206  
the county of registration as required under section 4503.19 of 207  
the Revised Code. 208

(B) The registrar shall issue a set of fraternal order of 209  
police associate license plates with a validation sticker or a 210  
validation sticker alone upon receipt of a contribution as 211  
provided in division (C) of this section and upon payment of the 212  
regular license fees prescribed under section 4503.04 of the 213  
Revised Code, ~~an additional fee of ten dollars for the purpose~~ 214  
~~of compensating the bureau of motor vehicles for additional~~ 215  
~~services required in the issuing of the fraternal order of~~ 216  
~~police associate license plates, payment of any applicable motor~~ 217  
vehicle tax levied under Chapter 4504. of the Revised Code, and 218  
compliance with all other applicable laws relating to the 219  
registration of motor vehicles. If the application for fraternal 220  
order of police associate license plates is combined with a 221  
request for a special reserved license plate under section 222  
4503.40 or 4503.42 of the Revised Code, the license plate and 223  
validation sticker shall be issued upon payment of the 224  
contribution, fees, and taxes contained in this division and the 225  
additional fee prescribed under section 4503.40 or 4503.42 of 226  
the Revised Code. 227

(C) For each application for registration and registration 228  
renewal the registrar receives under this section, the registrar 229  
shall collect a contribution of fifteen dollars. The registrar 230  
shall transmit this contribution to the treasurer of state for 231



deposit in the license plate contribution fund created in 232  
section 4501.21 of the Revised Code. 233

~~The registrar shall transmit the additional fee of ten 234  
dollars specified in division (B) of this section to the 235  
treasurer of state for deposit into the state treasury to the 236  
credit of the public safety — highway purposes fund created by 237  
section 4501.06 of the Revised Code. 238~~

**Section 2.** That existing sections 4503.47, 4503.471, 239  
4503.71, and 4503.711 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 240