As Passed by the Senate

135th General Assembly

Regular Session 2023-2024

Sub. H. B. No. 403

Representative Cutrona

Cosponsors: Representatives Hillyer, Mathews, Schmidt, Brennan, Carruthers, Daniels, Dell'Aquila, Dobos, Jones, Miller, K., Mohamed, Robinson, Santucci

Senators Manning, Cirino, Craig, DeMora, Ingram, Johnson, Kunze, Reineke, Wilkin

A BILL

To amend sections 3704.16, 4513.241, 4925.03, and	1
4925.04 and to enact section 4513.71 of the	2
Revised Code to create new causes of action in	3
relation to commercial motor vehicles towed	4
after an accident, to exempt motor vehicle	5
dealers from the prohibition against selling	6
vehicles that have been tampered with under	7
certain circumstances, to expand an exception to	8
existing window tinting prohibitions, and to	9
require transportation network companies to	10
conduct an annual background check on their	11
authorized drivers.	12

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

Section 1. That sections 3704.16, 4513.241, 4925.03, and	13
4925.04 be amended and section 4513.71 of the Revised Code be	14
enacted to read as follows:	15
Sec. 3704.16. (A) As used in sections 3704.16 to 3704.162	16

the emission control system;

of the Revised Code: (1) "Tamper with" means to remove permanently, bypass, defeat, or render inoperative, in whole or part, any emission control system that is installed on or in a motor vehicle. (2) "Motor vehicle" has the same meaning as in section 4501.01 of the Revised Code. (3) "Emission control system" means any system designated by the United States environmental protection agency as an emission control system under Title II of the "Clean Air Act Amendments." "Emission control system" includes any device or element of design of the system. (4) "Clean Air Act Amendments" has the same meaning as in section 3704.14 of the Revised Code. (5) Notwithstanding section 3704.01 of the Revised Code, "person" has the same meaning as in section 1.59 of the Revised Code. (B) No person shall do any of the following: (1) Sell, offer for sale, possess for sale, advertise, manufacture, install, or use any part or component intended for use with or as part of any motor vehicle when the primary effect is to bypass, defeat, or render inoperative, in whole or part,

(2) Introduce a leaded fuel into a motor vehicle that is
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designed, manufactured, or certified by the United States
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environmental protection agency to use only unleaded fuels;
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(3) Tamper with any emission control system installed on
or in a motor vehicle prior to its sale and delivery to the
ultimate purchaser;

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(4) Violate any rule or order the director of 45 environmental protection adopts or issues under section 3704.161 46 of the Revised Code; 47 (5) Refuse to permit the director or his the director's 48 designee to inspect any motor vehicle or documents as provided 49 in division (A) of section 3704.161 of the Revised Code. 50 The sale, offering for sale, possession for sale, 51 advertisement, manufacture, installation, and use of a part or 52 component in violation of division (B)(1) of this section all 53 constitute separate offenses. 54 (C) No person shall knowingly do any of the following: 55 (1) Operate a motor vehicle that has been tampered with if 56 the motor vehicle or motor vehicle engine has been certified by 57 the United States environmental protection agency as meeting 58 federal or California emission control standards; 59 (2) Sell, lease, rent, or offer to sell, lease, or rent, 60 or transfer or offer to transfer title or a right to possession 61 of a motor vehicle that has been tampered with; 62 (3) Tamper with any emission control system installed on 63 or in a motor vehicle after sale, lease, or rental and delivery 64 of the vehicle to the ultimate purchaser, lessee, or renter. 65 The sale, lease, rental, and offer to sell, lease, or 66 rent, and other transfer or offer to transfer of title or a 67 right to possession of a motor vehicle in violation of division 68 (C) (2) of this section all constitute separate offenses. 69 (D) Division (C)(2) of this section does not apply to 70 either any of the following: 71 (1) Any person who sells, leases, rents, or offers to 72 sell, lease, or rent, or transfers or offers to transfer title 73 or a right to possession of a motor vehicle that has been 74 tampered with if the person is acting as a motor vehicle auction 75 owner, a special auctioneer, or a salvage motor vehicle auction 76 and if the person holds a current and appropriate license to 77 engage in those activities issued under Chapter 4517., 4707., or 78 4738. of the Revised Code; 79

(2) The sale, lease, rental, or offer to sell, lease, or 80 rent, or transfer or offer to transfer title or right to 81 possession of a motor vehicle that has been tampered with if the 82 83 vehicle is titled with a salvage certificate of title issued under section 4505.11 of the Revised Code; 84

(3) A motor vehicle dealer who sells or offers to sell, or transfers or offers to transfer title to, a motor vehicle that has been tampered with to another motor vehicle dealer through a motor vehicle auction if all of the following occur:

(a) The dealer discloses to the auction that the vehicle 89 has been tampered with.

(b) The auction announces during, or as part of, the vehicle auction process that the vehicle has been tampered with.

(c) The auction identifies the vehicle as having been 93 tampered with in any written description of the vehicle. 94

(d) The auction provides the buyer and seller of the 95 vehicle with a receipt or other written documentation after the 96 sale that identifies the vehicle as having been tampered with. 97

(E) Notwithstanding divisions (B) (1) and (3) and (C) (3) of 98 this section, it is not a violation of those divisions if either 99 of the following conditions is met: 100

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(1) The action is taken for the purpose of repair or
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replacement of the emission control system or is a necessary and
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temporary procedure to repair or replace any other item on the
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motor vehicle and the action results in the system's compliance
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with the "Clean Air Act Amendments";

(2) The action is for the purpose of converting a motor vehicle to use a clean alternative fuel, as defined in Title II of the "Clean Air Act Amendments," the motor vehicle complies with the applicable standard adopted under Section 202 of that act when operating on the fuel, an emission control system is installed or replaced upon completion of the conversion, and the action results in the system's compliance with that act when the motor vehicle operates on the fuel for which it originally was designed.

Sec. 4513.241. (A) The director of public safety, in 115 accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, shall adopt 116 rules governing the use of tinted glass, and the use of 117 transparent, nontransparent, translucent, and reflectorized 118 materials in or on motor vehicle windshields, side windows, 119 sidewings, and rear windows that prevent a person of normal 120 vision looking into the motor vehicle from seeing or identifying 121 persons or objects inside the motor vehicle. 122

(B) The rules adopted under this section may provide forpersons who meet either of the following qualifications:124

(1) On November 11, 1994, or the effective date of any
rule adopted under this section, own a motor vehicle that does
not conform to the requirements of this section or of any rule
adopted under this section;

(2) Establish residency in this state and are required to

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register a motor vehicle that does not conform to the 130 requirements of this section or of any rule adopted under this 131 section. 132

(C) No person shall operate, on any highway or other
public or private property open to the public for vehicular
travel or parking, lease, or rent any motor vehicle that is
registered in this state unless the motor vehicle conforms to
the requirements of this section and of any applicable rule
adopted under this section.

(D) No person shall install in or on any motor vehicle,
any glass or other material that fails to conform to the
requirements of this section or of any rule adopted under this
section.

(E) (1) No used motor vehicle dealer or new motor vehicle
dealer, as defined in section 4517.01 of the Revised Code, shall
sell any motor vehicle that fails to conform to the requirements
of this section or of any rule adopted under this section.

(2) No manufacturer, remanufacturer, or distributor, as
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defined in section 4517.01 of the Revised Code, shall provide to
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a motor vehicle dealer licensed under Chapter 4517. of the
Revised Code or to any other person, a motor vehicle that fails
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to conform to the requirements of this section or of any rule
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adopted under this section.

(F) No reflectorized materials shall be permitted upon orin any front windshield, side windows, sidewings, or rear154window.

(G) This section does not apply to the manufacturer's
tinting or glazing of motor vehicle windows or windshields that
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is otherwise in compliance with or permitted by federal motor
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vehicle safety standard number two hundred five. 159

(H) With regard to any side window behind a driver's seat 160 or any rear window other than any window on an emergency door, 161 this section does not apply to any school bus used to transport 162 a child with disabilities pursuant to Chapter 3323. of the 163 Revised Code, whom it is impossible or impractical to transport 164 by regular school bus in the course of regular route 165 transportation provided by a school district. As used in this 166 division, "child with disabilities" has the same meaning as in 167 section 3323.01 of the Revised Code. 168

(I) This section does not apply to any school bus that isto be sold and operated outside this state.170

(J)(1) This section and the rules adopted under it do not apply to a motor vehicle used by a law enforcement agency under either of the following circumstances:

(a) The vehicle does not have distinctive markings of a174law enforcement vehicle but is operated by or on behalf of the175law enforcement agency in an authorized investigation or other176activity requiring that the presence and identity of the vehicle177occupants be undisclosed.178

(b) The vehicle primarily when the motor vehicle is used179by the law enforcement canine unit for transporting a police180dogagency for a purpose within the scope of the law enforcement181agency's duties.182

(2) As used in this division, "law enforcement agency"
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means a police department, the office of a sheriff, the state
highway patrol, a county prosecuting attorney, or a federal,
state, or local governmental body that enforces criminal laws
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and that has employees who have a statutory power of arrest.

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(K) (1) Whoever violates division (C), (E) (2), or (F) of188this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.189

(2) Whoever violates division (E) (1) of this section is
guilty of a minor misdemeanor if the dealer or the dealer's
agent knew of the nonconformity at the time of sale.

(3) (a) Whoever violates division (D) of this section is 193 quilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree, except that an 194 organization may not be convicted unless the act of installation 195 was authorized by the board of directors, trustees, partners, or 196 by a high managerial officer acting on behalf of the 197 organization, and installation was performed by an employee of 198 the organization acting within the scope of the person's 199 employment. 200

(b) In addition to any other penalty imposed under this section, whoever violates division (D) of this section is liable in a civil action to the owner of a motor vehicle on which was installed the nonconforming glass or material for any damages incurred by that person as a result of the installation of the nonconforming glass or material, costs of maintaining the civil action, and attorney fees.

208 (c) In addition to any other penalty imposed under this section, if the offender previously has been convicted of or 209 pleaded quilty to a violation of division (D) of this section 210 and the offender is a motor vehicle repair operator registered 211 under Chapter 4775. of the Revised Code or a motor vehicle 212 dealer licensed under Chapter 4517. of the Revised Code, whoever 213 violates division (D) of this section is subject to a 214 registration or license suspension, as applicable, for a period 215 of not more than one hundred eighty days. 216

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(L) (1) Every county court judge, mayor of a mayor's court, 217 and clerk of a court of record shall keep a full record of every 218 case in which a person is charged with any violation of this 219 section. If a person is convicted of or forfeits bail in 220 relation to a violation of division (D) of this section, the 221 county court judge, mayor of a mayor's court, or clerk, within 222 ten days after the conviction or bail forfeiture, shall prepare 223 and immediately forward to the motor vehicle repair board and 224 the motor vehicle dealers board, an abstract, certified by the 225 preparer to be true and correct, of the court record covering 226 the case in which the person was convicted or forfeited bail. 227

(2) The motor vehicle repair board and the motor vehicle 228 229 dealers board each shall keep and maintain all abstracts received under this section. Within ten days after receipt of an 230 abstract, each board, respectively, shall determine whether the 231 person named in the abstract is registered or licensed with the 232 board and, if the person is so registered or licensed, shall 233 proceed in accordance with section 4775.09 or 4517.33 of the 234 Revised Code, as applicable, and determine whether the person's 235 registration or license is to be suspended for a period of not 236 more than one hundred eighty days. 237

Sec. 4513.71. (A) As used in this section: 238

(1) "Towing service" and "storage facility" have the same meanings as in section 4513.70 of the Revised Code.

(2) "Motor vehicle owner" means any person that holds a241certificate of title to or is a lessee of a towed commercial242motor vehicle. "Motor vehicle owner" does not include a243lienholder or leasing company.244

(B) (1) A motor vehicle owner may commence a civil action

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against a towing service or storage facility for either of the	246
following reasons after the motor vehicle was removed, towed, or	247
stored pursuant to division (A)(2) of section 4513.66 of the	248
Revised Code:	249
(a) The recovery of the motor vehicle, cargo, or personal	250
property that was removed, towed, or stored;	251
(b) Objecting to the amount billed by the towing service	252
or storage facility for the removal, towing, or storage.	253
(2) The motor vehicle owner may commence the civil action	254
on behalf of that owner or on behalf of a third party for whom	255
the owner commercially transports the cargo that is the subject	256
of the civil action.	257
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(C) A towing service or storage facility may commence a	258
civil action against a motor vehicle owner for payment of the	259
amount billed by the towing service or storage facility in	260
accordance with this section if all of the following apply:	261
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(1) The motor vehicle, cargo, or personal property was	262
removed, towed, or stored pursuant to division (A)(2) of section	263
4513.66 of the Revised Code;	264
(2) The motor vehicle owner has not paid the amount billed	265
or commenced a civil action in accordance with division (B) of	266
this section within forty-five days after the motor vehicle	267
owner received the bill sent by the towing service or storage	268
facility;	269
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(3) The towing service or storage facility is not seeking	270
title to the motor vehicle, if applicable, in accordance with	271
section 4505.104 of the Revised Code, until judgment is entered	272
in any civil action filed under this section.	273

(D)(1) The motor vehicle owner, towing service, or storage	274
facility may file the action in the municipal or county court	275
with territorial jurisdiction over the location from which the	276
motor vehicle, cargo, or personal property was removed, towed,	277
<u>or stored.</u>	278
(2) The motor vehicle owner, towing service, or storage	279
facility, as applicable, shall send a copy of the filing to any	280
lienholder, if known, of the subject motor vehicle, cargo, or	281
personal property.	282
(E) If the motor vehicle owner objects to the amount	283
billed by the towing service or storage facility, the motor	284
vehicle owner shall include in the owner's complaint, answer, or	285
objection to the action, as applicable, the amount of the bill	286
that is undisputed and the reasons the owner objects to the	287
remainder of the bill. The motor vehicle owner shall file a copy	288
of the bill and any evidence supporting the assertion that the	289
billed amount is unreasonable. The motor vehicle owner shall pay	290
the undisputed amount to the towing service or service facility	291
and post a bond equal to the disputed amount of the bill.	292
(F) Not later than two business days after receipt of	293
payment of the undisputed amount of the bill and service of the	294
motor vehicle owner's complaint or answer to the civil action,	295
as applicable, the towing service or storage facility shall	296
release the motor vehicle, cargo, or personal property that is	297
the subject of the complaint to the motor vehicle owner.	298
(G) When an action filed under this section involves a	299
dispute over the amount of the bill, the court shall make a	300
determination as to whether the amount charged by the towing	301
service or facility is unreasonable. If the court determines	302
that the amount is reasonable, the court shall order the motor	303

vehicle owner to pay the amount billed minus the undisputed	304
amount that the owner previously paid to the towing service or	305
storage facility. If the court determines that the amount	306
charged was unreasonable, the court shall determine a reasonable	307
amount and order the motor vehicle owner to pay that amount	308
minus the undisputed amount that the owner previously paid to	309
the towing service or storage facility. The court may also	310
require either party to pay or refund any additional amount and	311
may impose any monetary penalties that the court determines to	312
<u>be appropriate.</u>	313
(H) Any money owed by the motor vehicle owner shall be	314
paid from the bond posted by the owner. If any amount of the	315
bond remains after payment, the remainder shall be returned to	316
the motor vehicle owner.	317
(I) Nothing in this section creates, implies, or otherwise	318
grants insurance coverage for the amount billed by the towing	319
service or storage facility that is not within the owner's	320
motor-vehicle liability policy, proof of financial	321
responsibility, or other policy of insurance.	322
Sec. 4925.03. A transportation network company shall do	323
all of the following:	324
(A) Disclose its fare calculation method on its digital	325
network;	326
(B) Provide transportation network company riders or	327
potential riders with the applicable rates charged by the	328
transportation network company;	329
(C) Allow a transportation network company rider or	330
potential rider to request and receive an estimated fare before	331
the rider or potential rider receives transportation network	332

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company services;	333
(D) Ensure that for each transportation network company	334
service request one of the following conditions is met:	335
(1) The transportation network company's digital network	336
provides a photograph of the transportation network company	337
driver and the license plate number of the motor vehicle that	338
will provide the transportation network company service before	339
the transportation network company rider enters the vehicle;	340
(2) The name of the transportation network company is	341
prominently displayed on the vehicle that will provide the	342
transportation network company service.	343
(E) Establish a process by which the transportation	344
network company may accept payments for transportation network	345
company services through the company's digital network;	346
(F) Within a reasonable period of time after the	347
completion of transportation network services, transmit an	348
electronic receipt to the transportation network company rider	349
that includes the origin and destination of the trip, the	350
distance of the trip, the total time during which transportation	351
network company services were provided, an itemization of the	352
total fare charged, and, if applicable, that the rider made a	353
cash payment to the driver;	354
(G) Designate an agent located within this state who is	355
authorized to receive service of process;	356
(H) Comply with the requirements established under	357
sections 3942.02 to 3942.04 of the Revised Code;	358
(I) Conduct an annual background check on each authorized	359
transportation network company driver and terminate the	360

authorization of any driver that does not meet the initial	361
authorization requirements of division (B) of section 4525.04 of	362
the Revised Code;	363
(J) Comply with any other requirements established by the	364
public utilities commission.	365
Sec. 4925.04. (A) Prior to authorizing a person to act as	366
a transportation network company driver, a transportation	367
network company shall do all of the following:	368
network company sharr do arr or the rorrowing.	500
(1) Require the person to submit an application to the	369
transportation network company that includes at least all of the	370
following:	371
(a) The person's address;	372
(b) The person's age;	373
(c) The person's driver's license number and information	374
on the person's driving history;	375
(d) A copy of the certificate of motor vehicle	376
registration for the vehicle the person will use to provide	377
transportation network company services;	378
(e) Proof of automobile insurance.	379
(2) Conduct a background check on each applicant,	380
including both of the following:	381
(a) A search of a multi-state/multi-jurisdiction criminal	382
records database, or a similar nationwide criminal records	383
database, and validation of any records through a primary source	384
search;	385
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(b) A search of the United States department of justice	386
national sex offender public web site;	387

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to each applicant. 389 (B) A transportation network company shall not authorize a 390 person to act as a transportation network company driver if any 391 of the following apply to the person: 392 (1) The person does not possess a valid driver's license. 393 (2) The person does not possess a valid certification of 394 motor vehicle registration for the motor vehicle that the person 395 intends to use to provide transportation network company 396 services. 397 (3) The person does not possess automobile liability 398 insurance for the vehicle that the person intends to use to 399 provide transportation network company services that meets the 400 requirements of section 3942.02 of the Revised Code unless the 401 transportation network company provides such insurance on behalf 402 of the driver. 403 (4) The person has not attained the age of nineteen. 404 (5) Within the past three years, the person has been 405 convicted of, or pleaded guilty to, more than three violations 406 of section 4511.194, 4511.204, 4511.21, 4511.211, 4511.251, 407 4511.29, 4511.30, 4511.39, 4511.46, 4511.47, 4511.711, or 408 4511.75 of the Revised Code or an existing or former municipal 409 ordinance or law of this or any other state, or of the United 410

(3) Obtain and review a driving history report with regard

(6) Within the past three years, the person has been
convicted of, or pleaded guilty to, any serious vehicle-related
offense, including a violation of division (B) of section
2921.331 of the Revised Code or a violation of section 4510.11,

States, that is substantially equivalent to any offense listed

in division (B)(5) of this section.

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4510.111, 4510.12, 4510.14, 4510.16, 4510.18, 4511.20, or	417
4511.201 of the Revised Code or an existing or former municipal	418
ordinance or law of this or any other state, or of the United	419
States, that is substantially equivalent to any offense listed	420
in division (B)(6) of this section.	421
(7) Within the past seven years, the person has been	422
convicted of, or pleaded guilty to, any of the following:	423
(a) Operating a vehicle while under the influence of	424
alcohol, a drug of abuse, or a combination of both, in violation	425
of section 4511.19 of the Revised Code;	426
(b) The commission of any felony offense while operating,	427
or being a passenger in, a motor vehicle;	428
(c) A theft or fraud offense in violation of section	429
2911.01 or 2911.02 of the Revised Code or any provision of	430
Chapter 2913. of the Revised Code;	431
(d) A property damage offense in violation of section	432
2909.02, 2909.03, 2909.05, 2909.06, 2909.07, 2909.09, 2909.10,	433
or 2909.101 of the Revised Code;	434
(e) A sex offense in violation of any provision of Chapter	435
2907. of the Revised Code;	436
(f) An offense of violence as defined in section 2901.01	437
of the Revised Code;	438
(g) An act of terrorism as defined in section 2909.21 of	439
the Revised Code;	440
(h) A violation of an existing or former municipal	441
ordinance or law of this or any other state, or of the United	442
States, that is substantially equivalent to any offense listed	443
in division (B)(7) of this section.	444

(8) A search of the United States department of justice	445
national sex offender public web site indicates that the person	446
is identified as a sex offender.	447
(C) A transportation network company shall terminate the	448
(c) A classofication network company share commande enc	110
authorization of a person to act as a transportation network	449
company driver on behalf of the company if any of the conditions	450
specified in division (B) of this section apply to that person	451
according to that person's annual background check conducted in	452
accordance with section 4925.03 of the Revised Code.	453
Section 2. That existing sections 3704.16, 4513.241,	454
4925.03, and 4925.04 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.	455