

As Reported by the House Transportation Committee

136th General Assembly

Regular Session

2025-2026

Sub. H. B. No. 258

Representatives Mathews, A., Deeter

Cosponsors: Representatives Willis, Daniels, Newman, Robb Blasdel

To amend sections 4503.10 and 4507.09 of the
Revised Code to modify the law governing motor
vehicle driver's license expiration
notifications.

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

Section 1. That sections 4503.10 and 4507.09 of the
Revised Code be amended to read as follows:

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Sec. 4503.10. (A) The owner of every snowmobile, off-
highway motorcycle, and all-purpose vehicle required to be
registered under section 4519.02 of the Revised Code shall file
an application for registration under section 4519.03 of the
Revised Code. The owner of a motor vehicle, other than a
snowmobile, off-highway motorcycle, or all-purpose vehicle, that
is not designed and constructed by the manufacturer for
operation on a street or highway may not register it under this
chapter except upon certification of inspection pursuant to
section 4513.02 of the Revised Code by the sheriff, or the chief
of police of the municipal corporation or township, with
jurisdiction over the political subdivision in which the owner
of the motor vehicle resides. Except as provided in sections
4503.103 and 4503.107 of the Revised Code, every owner of every

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other motor vehicle not previously described in this section and 21
every person mentioned as owner in the last certificate of title 22
of a motor vehicle that is operated or driven upon the public 23
roads or highways shall cause to be filed each year, by mail or 24
otherwise, in the office of the registrar of motor vehicles or a 25
deputy registrar, a written or electronic application or a 26
preprinted registration renewal notice issued under section 27
4503.102 of the Revised Code, the form of which shall be 28
prescribed by the registrar, for registration for the following 29
registration year, which shall begin on the first day of January 30
of every calendar year and end on the thirty-first day of 31
December in the same year. Applications for registration and 32
registration renewal notices shall be filed at the times 33
established by the registrar pursuant to section 4503.101 of the 34
Revised Code. A motor vehicle owner also may elect to apply for 35
or renew a motor vehicle registration by electronic means using 36
electronic signature in accordance with rules adopted by the 37
registrar. Except as provided in division (J) of this section, 38
applications for registration shall be made on blanks furnished 39
by the registrar for that purpose, containing the following 40
information: 41

(1) A brief description of the motor vehicle to be 42
registered, including the year, make, model, and vehicle 43
identification number, and, in the case of commercial cars, the 44
gross weight of the vehicle fully equipped computed in the 45
manner prescribed in section 4503.08 of the Revised Code; 46

(2) The name and residence address of the owner, and the 47
township and municipal corporation in which the owner resides; 48

(3) The district of registration, which shall be 49
determined as follows: 50

(a) In case the motor vehicle to be registered is used for 51
hire or principally in connection with any established business 52
or branch business, conducted at a particular place, the 53
district of registration is the municipal corporation in which 54
that place is located or, if not located in any municipal 55
corporation, the county and township in which that place is 56
located. 57

(b) In case the vehicle is not so used, the district of 58
registration is the municipal corporation or county in which the 59
owner resides at the time of making the application. 60

(4) Whether the motor vehicle is a new or used motor 61
vehicle; 62

(5) The date of purchase of the motor vehicle; 63

(6) Whether the fees required to be paid for the 64
registration or transfer of the motor vehicle, during the 65
preceding registration year and during the preceding period of 66
the current registration year, have been paid. Each application 67
for registration shall be signed by the owner, either manually 68
or by electronic signature, or pursuant to obtaining a limited 69
power of attorney authorized by the registrar for registration, 70
or other document authorizing such signature. If the owner 71
elects to apply for or renew the motor vehicle registration with 72
the registrar by electronic means, the owner's manual signature 73
is not required. 74

(7) The owner's social security number, driver's license 75
number, or state identification number, or, where a motor 76
vehicle to be registered is used for hire or principally in 77
connection with any established business, the owner's federal 78
taxpayer identification number. The bureau of motor vehicles 79

shall retain in its records all social security numbers provided 80
under this section, but the bureau shall not place social 81
security numbers on motor vehicle certificates of registration. 82

(8) Whether the applicant wishes to certify willingness to 83
make an anatomical gift if an applicant has not so certified 84
under section 2108.05 of the Revised Code. The applicant's 85
response shall not be considered in the decision of whether to 86
approve the application for registration. 87

(9) A reminder that the applicant should check the 88
expiration date of the applicant's driver's license or 89
identification card. 90

(B) (1) When an applicant first registers a motor vehicle 91
in the applicant's name, the applicant shall provide proof of 92
ownership of that motor vehicle. Proof of ownership may include 93
any of the following: 94

(a) The applicant may present for inspection a physical 95
certificate of title or memorandum certificate showing title to 96
the motor vehicle to be registered in the name of the applicant. 97

(b) The applicant may present for inspection an electronic 98
certificate of title for the applicant's motor vehicle in a 99
manner prescribed by rules adopted by the registrar. 100

(c) The registrar or deputy registrar may electronically 101
confirm the applicant's ownership of the motor vehicle. 102

An applicant is not required to present a certificate of 103
title to an electronic motor vehicle dealer acting as a limited 104
authority deputy registrar in accordance with rules adopted by 105
the registrar. 106

(2) When a motor vehicle inspection and maintenance 107

program is in effect under section 3704.14 of the Revised Code 108
and rules adopted under it, each application for registration 109
for a vehicle required to be inspected under that section and 110
those rules shall be accompanied by an inspection certificate or 111
alternative emissions certificate for the motor vehicle issued 112
in accordance with that section. 113

(3) An application for registration shall be refused if 114
any of the following applies: 115

(a) The application is not in proper form. 116

(b) The application is prohibited from being accepted by 117
division (D) of section 2935.27, division (A) of section 118
4503.13, division (B) of section 4510.22, division (D) of 119
section 4503.234, division (B) (1) of section 4521.10, or 120
division (B) of section 5537.041 of the Revised Code. 121

(c) Proof of ownership is required but is not presented or 122
confirmed in accordance with division (B) (1) of this section. 123

(d) All registration and transfer fees for the motor 124
vehicle, for the preceding year or the preceding period of the 125
current registration year, have not been paid. 126

(e) The owner or lessee does not have an inspection 127
certificate or alternative emissions certificate for the motor 128
vehicle as provided in section 3704.14 of the Revised Code, and 129
rules adopted under it, if that section is applicable. 130

(4) This section does not require the payment of license 131
or registration taxes on a motor vehicle for any preceding year, 132
or for any preceding period of a year, if the motor vehicle was 133
not taxable for that preceding year or period under sections 134
4503.02, 4503.04, 4503.11, 4503.12, and 4503.16 or Chapter 4504. 135
of the Revised Code. 136

(5) When a certificate of registration is issued upon the 137
first registration of a motor vehicle by or on behalf of the 138
owner, the official issuing the certificate shall indicate the 139
issuance with a stamp on the certificate of title or memorandum 140
certificate or, in the case of an electronic certificate of 141
title or electronic verification of ownership, an electronic 142
stamp or other notation as specified in rules adopted by the 143
registrar, and with a stamp on the inspection certificate for 144
the motor vehicle, if any. 145

(6) The official also shall indicate, by a stamp or by 146
other means the registrar prescribes, on the registration 147
certificate issued upon the first registration of a motor 148
vehicle by or on behalf of the owner the odometer reading of the 149
motor vehicle as shown in the odometer statement included in or 150
attached to the certificate of title. Upon each subsequent 151
registration of the motor vehicle by or on behalf of the same 152
owner, the official also shall so indicate the odometer reading 153
of the motor vehicle as shown on the immediately preceding 154
certificate of registration. 155

(7) The registrar shall include in the permanent 156
registration record of any vehicle required to be inspected 157
under section 3704.14 of the Revised Code the inspection 158
certificate number from the inspection certificate or the 159
alternative emissions certificate number from the alternative 160
emissions certificate that is presented at the time of 161
registration of the vehicle as required under this division. 162

(C) (1) The registrar and each deputy registrar shall 163
collect the following additional fees for each application for 164
registration and registration renewal received: 165

(a) Except as provided in division (C) (1) (b) of this 166

section, a fee of eleven dollars on or before December 31, 2025, 167
and a fee of sixteen dollars on and after January 1, 2026; 168

(b) For vehicles specified in divisions (A)(1) to (21) of 169
section 4503.042 of the Revised Code, a fee of thirty dollars on 170
or before December 31, 2025, and a fee of thirty-five dollars on 171
and after January 1, 2026. 172

No additional fee shall be charged for vehicles registered 173
under section 4503.65 of the Revised Code. Each additional fee 174
is for the purpose of defraying the department of public 175
safety's costs associated with the administration and 176
enforcement of the motor vehicle and traffic laws of Ohio. Each 177
deputy registrar shall transmit the fees collected under 178
divisions (C)(1) and (3) of this section in the time and manner 179
provided in this section. The registrar shall deposit all moneys 180
received under division (C)(1) of this section into the public 181
safety - highway purposes fund established in section 4501.06 of 182
the Revised Code. 183

(2) In addition, a charge of twenty-five cents shall be 184
made for each reflectorized safety license plate issued, and a 185
single charge of twenty-five cents shall be made for each county 186
identification sticker or each set of county identification 187
stickers issued, as the case may be, to cover the cost of 188
producing the license plates and stickers, including material, 189
manufacturing, and administrative costs. Those fees shall be in 190
addition to the license tax. If the total cost of producing the 191
plates is less than twenty-five cents per plate, or if the total 192
cost of producing the stickers is less than twenty-five cents 193
per sticker or per set issued, any excess moneys accruing from 194
the fees shall be distributed in the same manner as provided by 195
section 4501.04 of the Revised Code for the distribution of 196

license tax moneys. If the total cost of producing the plates 197
exceeds twenty-five cents per plate, or if the total cost of 198
producing the stickers exceeds twenty-five cents per sticker or 199
per set issued, the difference shall be paid from the license 200
tax moneys collected pursuant to section 4503.02 of the Revised 201
Code. 202

(3) The registrar and each deputy registrar shall collect 203
the following additional fee, as applicable, for each 204
application for registration or registration renewal received 205
for any hybrid motor vehicle, plug-in hybrid electric motor 206
vehicle, or battery electric motor vehicle: 207

(a) One hundred dollars for a hybrid motor vehicle; 208

(b) One hundred fifty dollars for a plug-in hybrid 209
electric motor vehicle; 210

(c) Two hundred dollars for a battery electric motor 211
vehicle. 212

Each fee imposed under this division shall be prorated 213
based on the number of months for which the vehicle is 214
registered. The registrar shall transmit all money arising from 215
each fee to the treasurer of state for distribution in 216
accordance with division (E) of section 5735.051 of the Revised 217
Code, subject to division (D) of section 5735.05 of the Revised 218
Code. 219

(D) Each deputy registrar shall be allowed a fee equal to 220
the amount established under section 4503.038 of the Revised 221
Code for each application for registration and registration 222
renewal notice the deputy registrar receives, which shall be for 223
the purpose of compensating the deputy registrar for the deputy 224
registrar's services, and such office and rental expenses, as 225

may be necessary for the proper discharge of the deputy 226
registrar's duties in the receiving of applications and renewal 227
notices and the issuing of registrations. 228

(E) Upon the certification of the registrar, the county 229
sheriff or local police officials shall recover license plates 230
erroneously or fraudulently issued. 231

(F) Each deputy registrar, upon receipt of any application 232
for registration or registration renewal notice, together with 233
the license fee and any local motor vehicle license tax levied 234
pursuant to Chapter 4504. of the Revised Code, shall transmit 235
that fee and tax, if any, in the manner provided in this 236
section, together with the original and duplicate copy of the 237
application, to the registrar. The registrar, subject to the 238
approval of the director of public safety, may deposit the funds 239
collected by those deputies in a local bank or depository to the 240
credit of the "state of Ohio, bureau of motor vehicles." Where a 241
local bank or depository has been designated by the registrar, 242
each deputy registrar shall deposit all moneys collected by the 243
deputy registrar into that bank or depository not more than one 244
business day after their collection and shall make reports to 245
the registrar of the amounts so deposited, together with any 246
other information, some of which may be prescribed by the 247
treasurer of state, as the registrar may require and as 248
prescribed by the registrar by rule. The registrar, within three 249
days after receipt of notification of the deposit of funds by a 250
deputy registrar in a local bank or depository, shall draw on 251
that account in favor of the treasurer of state. The registrar, 252
subject to the approval of the director and the treasurer of 253
state, may make reasonable rules necessary for the prompt 254
transmittal of fees and for safeguarding the interests of the 255
state and of counties, townships, municipal corporations, and 256

transportation improvement districts levying local motor vehicle 257
license taxes. The registrar may pay service charges usually 258
collected by banks and depositories for such service. If deputy 259
registrars are located in communities where banking facilities 260
are not available, they shall transmit the fees forthwith, by 261
money order or otherwise, as the registrar, by rule approved by 262
the director and the treasurer of state, may prescribe. The 263
registrar may pay the usual and customary fees for such service. 264

(G) This section does not prevent any person from making 265
an application for a motor vehicle license directly to the 266
registrar by mail, by electronic means, or in person at any of 267
the registrar's offices, upon payment of a service fee equal to 268
the amount established under section 4503.038 of the Revised 269
Code for each application. 270

(H) No person shall make a false statement as to the 271
district of registration in an application required by division 272
(A) of this section. Violation of this division is falsification 273
under section 2921.13 of the Revised Code and punishable as 274
specified in that section. 275

(I) (1) Where applicable, the requirements of division (B) 276
of this section relating to the presentation of an inspection 277
certificate issued under section 3704.14 of the Revised Code and 278
rules adopted under it for a motor vehicle, the refusal of a 279
license for failure to present an inspection certificate or 280
alternative emissions certificate, and the stamping of the 281
inspection certificate or alternative emissions certificate by 282
the official issuing the certificate of registration apply to 283
the registration of and issuance of license plates for a motor 284
vehicle under sections 4503.102, 4503.12, 4503.14, 4503.15, 285
4503.16, 4503.171, 4503.172, 4503.19, 4503.40, 4503.41, 4503.42, 286

4503.43, 4503.44, 4503.46, 4503.47, and 4503.51 of the Revised 287
Code. 288

(2) (a) The registrar shall adopt rules ensuring that each 289
owner registering a motor vehicle in a county where a motor 290
vehicle inspection and maintenance program is in effect under 291
section 3704.14 of the Revised Code and rules adopted under it 292
receives information about the requirements established in that 293
section and those rules and about the need in those counties to 294
present an inspection certificate or an alternative emissions 295
certificate with an application for registration or 296
preregistration. 297

(b) Upon request, the registrar shall provide the director 298
of environmental protection, or any person that has been awarded 299
a contract under section 3704.14 of the Revised Code, an on-line 300
computer data link to registration information for all passenger 301
cars, noncommercial motor vehicles, and commercial cars that are 302
subject to that section. The registrar also shall provide to the 303
director of environmental protection a magnetic data tape 304
containing registration information regarding passenger cars, 305
noncommercial motor vehicles, and commercial cars for which a 306
multi-year registration is in effect under section 4503.103 of 307
the Revised Code or rules adopted under it, including, without 308
limitation, the date of issuance of the multi-year registration, 309
the registration deadline established under rules adopted under 310
section 4503.101 of the Revised Code that was applicable in the 311
year in which the multi-year registration was issued, and the 312
registration deadline for renewal of the multi-year 313
registration. 314

(J) Subject to division (K) of this section, application 315
for registration under the international registration plan, as 316

set forth in sections 4503.60 to 4503.66 of the Revised Code, 317
shall be made to the registrar on forms furnished by the 318
registrar. In accordance with international registration plan 319
guidelines and pursuant to rules adopted by the registrar, the 320
forms shall include the following: 321

(1) A uniform mileage schedule; 322

(2) The gross vehicle weight of the vehicle or combined 323
gross vehicle weight of the combination vehicle as declared by 324
the registrant; 325

(3) Any other information the registrar requires by rule. 326

(K) The registrar shall determine the feasibility of 327
implementing an electronic commercial fleet licensing and 328
management program that will enable the owners of commercial 329
tractors, commercial trailers, and commercial semitrailers to 330
conduct electronic transactions by July 1, 2010, or sooner. If 331
the registrar determines that implementing such a program is 332
feasible, the registrar shall adopt new rules under this 333
division or amend existing rules adopted under this division as 334
necessary in order to respond to advances in technology. 335

If international registration plan guidelines and 336
provisions allow member jurisdictions to permit applications for 337
registrations under the international registration plan to be 338
made via the internet, the rules the registrar adopts under this 339
division shall permit such action. 340

Sec. 4507.09. (A) (1) Except as provided in division (B) of 341
this section, every driver's license issued to a resident of 342
this state expires on the birthday of the applicant in the 343
fourth or eighth year after the date it is issued, based on the 344
period of renewal requested by the applicant. A resident who is 345

sixty-five years of age or older may only apply for a driver's 346
license that expires on the birthday of the applicant in the 347
fourth year after the date it is issued. In no event shall any 348
license be issued for a period longer than eight years and 349
ninety days. 350

Subject to the requirements of section 4507.12 of the 351
Revised Code, every driver's license issued to a resident is 352
renewable at any time prior to its expiration. 353

(2) A driver's license issued to a temporary resident 354
shall expire in accordance with rules adopted by the registrar 355
of motor vehicles. A driver's license issued to a temporary 356
resident is a limited term license, but may be renewed within 357
ninety days prior to its expiration in accordance with division 358
(E) of this section. 359

(3) No refund shall be made or credit given for the 360
unexpired portion of the driver's license that is renewed. 361

(a) If the records of the bureau of motor vehicles contain 362
a person's last known electronic mail address or cellular 363
telephone number, the registrar may send an electronic 364
notification to the person not less than fifteen days prior to 365
the date that the person's driver's license or identification 366
card is scheduled to expire informing the person of the pending 367
expiration. If a person does not renew the driver's license or 368
identification card by the expiration date, the registrar may 369
send an electronic notification of the expiration not more than 370
fourteen days after the driver's license or identification card 371
expired. The 372

(b) In addition to any notification sent under division 373
(A) (3) (a) of this section, the registrar shall ~~notify~~ send a 374

notification of expiration to each person whose driver's license 375
or identification card has expired within ~~forty-five~~ sixty days 376
after the date of expiration. Notification shall be made by 377
regular mail sent to the person's last known address as shown in 378
the records of the bureau of motor vehicles. ~~Failure~~ 379

(c) Failure to provide ~~such~~ notification under division 380
(A) (3) (a) or (b) of this section shall not be construed as a 381
renewal or extension of any license. 382

(4) For the purposes of this section, the date of birth of 383
any applicant born on the twenty-ninth day of February shall be 384
deemed to be the first day of March in any year in which there 385
is no twenty-ninth day of February. 386

(B) Every driver's license or renewal of a driver's 387
license issued to a resident applicant who is sixteen years of 388
age or older, but less than twenty-one years of age, expires on 389
the twenty-first birthday of the applicant, except that an 390
applicant who applies no more than thirty days before the 391
applicant's twenty-first birthday shall be issued a license in 392
accordance with division (A) of this section. 393

(C) Each person licensed as a driver under this chapter 394
shall notify the registrar of any change in the person's address 395
within ten days following that change. The notification shall be 396
in writing on a form provided by the registrar and shall include 397
the full name, date of birth, license number, county of 398
residence, social security number, and new address of the 399
person. The registrar shall offer the person the opportunity to 400
submit a notice of change of address for voter registration 401
purposes by electronic means in conjunction with the person's 402
transaction with the registrar, in accordance with section 403
3503.11 of the Revised Code. 404

(D) No driver's license shall be renewed when renewal is 405
prohibited by division (A) of section 4507.091 of the Revised 406
Code. 407

(E) (1) Except as provided in division (E) (2) of this 408
section, a limited term license shall not be issued to a 409
temporary resident for a period longer than the expiration date 410
of the temporary resident's authorized stay in the United 411
States, or for four years from the date of issuance, whichever 412
date is earliest. 413

(2) If there is no expiration date for a temporary 414
resident's authorized stay in the United States, a limited term 415
license shall not be issued to the temporary resident for a 416
period longer than one year from the date of issuance. 417

(3) A limited term license may be renewed within ninety 418
days prior to its expiration upon the applicant's presentation 419
of documentation verifying the applicant's legal presence or 420
continued temporary lawful status in the United States. 421

(4) In accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, 422
the registrar shall adopt rules governing limited term licenses 423
for temporary residents. 424

Section 2. That existing sections 4503.10 and 4507.09 of 425
the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 426