

**As Passed by the House**

**136th General Assembly**

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**2025-2026**

**Sub. H. B. No. 3**

**Representatives Willis, Thomas, C.**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Fischer, McClain, Brennan, Johnson, Williams, Synenberg, Daniels, Brewer, Click, Hiner, Piccolantonio, Claggett, Sigrist, Cockley, Callender, Hall, T., Jarrells, John, Sims, Abdullahi, Bird, Brownlee, Creech, Deeter, Denson, Dovilla, Ghanbari, Glassburn, Grim, Hall, D., Hoops, Humphrey, King, Kishman, Lett, Manning, Mathews, T., McNally, Miller, J., Miller, K., Miller, M., Mohamed, Odioso, Peterson, Pizzulli, Plummer, Rader, Ritter, Robb Blasdel, Roemer, Russo, Salvo, Sweeney, Thomas, J., Upchurch, White, A., White, E., Workman**

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To amend sections 4503.03, 4510.036, 4511.75, 1  
4511.751, and 4511.76 and to enact sections 2  
5.501, 3327.18, and 3327.19 of the Revised Code 3  
to address school bus safety, to designate this 4  
act as the School Bus Safety Act, and to make an 5  
appropriation. 6

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

**Section 1.** That sections 4503.03, 4510.036, 4511.75, 7  
4511.751, and 4511.76 be amended and sections 5.501, 3327.18, 8  
and 3327.19 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 9

**Sec. 5.501.** The month of August is designated as "School 10  
Bus Safety Awareness Month" to increase public awareness of the 11  
need to properly stop when a stopped school bus is loading and 12  
unloading passengers. 13

**Sec. 3327.18.** (A) The school bus safety fund is created in 14

the state treasury. The fund shall consist of the criminal fines 15  
collected for violations of division (A) of section 4511.75 of 16  
the Revised Code. 17

(B) The fund shall be administered by the director of 18  
education and workforce. Money in the fund shall be used to make 19  
grants to school districts for purposes of improving the safety 20  
features on school buses in accordance with section 3327.19 of 21  
the Revised Code. 22

(C) All investment earnings of the fund shall be credited 23  
to the fund. 24

**Sec. 3327.19.** (A) As used in this section: 25

(1) "Eligible applicant" means a board of education of a 26  
city school district, a local school district, an exempted 27  
village school district, a cooperative education school 28  
district, or a joint vocational school district, or a governing 29  
board of an educational service center. 30

(2) "School bus safety feature" means any of the 31  
following: 32

(a) External school bus cameras; 33

(b) Crossing arms; 34

(c) Lane departure warning systems; 35

(d) Electronic stability control; 36

(e) Lighted crossover mirrors; 37

(f) Colorado rack test-approved bus frames; 38

(g) Fully illuminated stop arms located at the front and 39  
rear of a school bus; 40

|                                                                        |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <u>(h) Fully illuminated "school bus" signs;</u>                       | 41 |
| <u>(i) Collision avoidance systems;</u>                                | 42 |
| <u>(j) All light-emitting diode lights;</u>                            | 43 |
| <u>(k) Ground wash lights;</u>                                         | 44 |
| <u>(l) Reflective chevron;</u>                                         | 45 |
| <u>(m) Occupant restraining devices that conform to the</u>            | 46 |
| <u>school bus seat belt requirements of 49 C.F.R. 571;</u>             | 47 |
| <u>(n) Silent panic alert technology that connects the school</u>      | 48 |
| <u>bus to a public safety answering point to allow immediate</u>       | 49 |
| <u>contact with emergency service;</u>                                 | 50 |
| <u>(o) Broadband push-to-talk capabilities, integrated with</u>        | 51 |
| <u>traditional land mobile radio, if necessary, for direct</u>         | 52 |
| <u>interoperability with public safety and other emergency service</u> | 53 |
| <u>broadband applications;</u>                                         | 54 |
| <u>(p) Additional safety features that become available</u>            | 55 |
| <u>through advancements in technology and that are approved by the</u> | 56 |
| <u>department of public safety and the department of education and</u> | 57 |
| <u>workforce.</u>                                                      | 58 |
| <u>(3) "Emergency service" and "public safety answering</u>            | 59 |
| <u>point" have the same meanings as in section 128.01 of the</u>       | 60 |
| <u>Revised Code.</u>                                                   | 61 |
| <u>(B) The department of education and workforce shall</u>             | 62 |
| <u>administer a school bus safety grant program. Under the grant</u>   | 63 |
| <u>program, the department shall award grants to eligible</u>          | 64 |
| <u>applicants who apply to the department for funding to do any of</u> | 65 |
| <u>the following:</u>                                                  | 66 |
| <u>(1) Purchase and install school bus safety features on an</u>       | 67 |

eligible applicant's school buses that do not currently have 68  
those features installed; 69

(2) Purchase and install school bus safety features to 70  
replace old, broken, or outdated safety features on an eligible 71  
applicant's current school buses; 72

(3) Purchase school bus safety features as additional 73  
features to be included on new school buses being purchased by 74  
the eligible applicant. 75

(C) The department shall use the school bus safety fund 76  
created under section 3327.18 of the Revised Code to provide 77  
grants to eligible applicants in accordance with this section. 78

(D) The director of education and workforce shall 79  
establish any procedures and requirements necessary to 80  
administer this section, including procedures and requirements 81  
governing the form of grant applications and grant award 82  
processes and amounts. 83

(E) An eligible applicant that receives a grant under this 84  
section shall do both of the following: 85

(1) Use the funds only for the purchase and installation 86  
of school bus safety features; 87

(2) Spend any grant funds awarded not later than two years 88  
after the date the funds are distributed to the eligible 89  
applicant. 90

**Sec. 4503.03.** (A) (1) (a) Except as provided in division (B) 91  
of this section, the registrar of motor vehicles may designate 92  
one or more of the following persons to act as a deputy 93  
registrar in each county: 94

(i) The county auditor in any county; 95

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| (ii) The clerk of a court of common pleas in any county;                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 96                                            |
| (iii) An individual;                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 97                                            |
| (iv) A nonprofit corporation as defined in division (C) of section 1702.01 of the Revised Code.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 98<br>99                                      |
| All fees collected and retained by a clerk for conducting deputy registrar services shall be paid into the county treasury to the credit of the certificate of title administration fund created under section 325.33 of the Revised Code.                                                                                                                                                                               | 100<br>101<br>102<br>103                      |
| (b) As part of the selection process in awarding a deputy registrar contract, the registrar shall consider the customer service performance record of any person previously awarded a deputy registrar contract pursuant to division (A)(1) of this section.                                                                                                                                                             | 104<br>105<br>106<br>107<br>108               |
| (2) Deputy registrars shall accept applications for the annual license tax for any vehicle not taxed under section 4503.63 of the Revised Code and shall assign distinctive numbers in the same manner as the registrar. Such deputies shall be located in such locations as the registrar sees fit. Except as provided in division (A)(3) of this section, there shall be at least one deputy registrar in each county. | 109<br>110<br>111<br>112<br>113<br>114<br>115 |
| (3) The registrar need not appoint a deputy registrar in a county to which all of the following apply:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 116<br>117                                    |
| (a) No individual, nonprofit corporation, or, where applicable, clerk of court of common pleas participates in the competitive selection process to be designated as a deputy registrar;                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 118<br>119<br>120<br>121                      |
| (b) Neither the county auditor nor the clerk of court of common pleas agrees to be designated as a deputy registrar;                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 122<br>123                                    |

(c) No individual or nonprofit corporation agrees to be designated as a deputy registrar; 124  
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(d) No deputy registrar operating an existing deputy registrar agency in another county agrees to be designated as the deputy registrar for that county. 126  
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(4) The registrar may reestablish a deputy registrar in any county without a deputy registrar if any of the following apply: 129  
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(a) The county auditor requests to be designated as a deputy registrar; 132  
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(b) The clerk of court of common pleas requests to be designated as a deputy registrar; 134  
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(c) A deputy registrar operating an existing deputy registrar agency in another county requests to be designated as a deputy registrar for that county; 136  
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(d) A qualified individual or nonprofit corporation requests to be designated as a deputy registrar. In the event that two or more qualified individuals, nonprofit corporations, or a combination thereof, request to be designated as a deputy registrar, the registrar may make the designation through the competitive selection process. 139  
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Deputy registrar contracts are subject to the provisions of division (B) of section 125.081 of the Revised Code. 145  
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(B) (1) The registrar shall not designate any person to act as a deputy registrar under division (A) (1) of this section if the person or, where applicable, the person's spouse or a member of the person's immediate family has made, within the current calendar year or any one of the previous three calendar years, 147  
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one or more contributions totaling in excess of one hundred 152  
dollars to any person or entity included in division (A) (2) of 153  
section 4503.033 of the Revised Code. As used in this division, 154  
"immediate family" has the same meaning as in division (D) of 155  
section 102.01 of the Revised Code, and "entity" includes any 156  
political party and any "continuing association" as defined in 157  
division (C) (4) of section 3517.01 of the Revised Code or 158  
"political action committee" as defined in division (C) (8) of 159  
that section that is primarily associated with that political 160  
party. For purposes of this division, contributions to any 161  
continuing association or any political action committee that is 162  
primarily associated with a political party shall be aggregated 163  
with contributions to that political party. 164

The contribution limitations contained in this division do 165  
not apply to any county auditor or clerk of a court of common 166  
pleas. A county auditor or clerk of a court of common pleas is 167  
not required to file the disclosure statement or pay the filing 168  
fee required under section 4503.033 of the Revised Code. The 169  
limitations of this division also do not apply to a deputy 170  
registrar who, subsequent to being awarded a deputy registrar 171  
contract, is elected to an office of a political subdivision. 172

(2) The registrar shall not designate either of the 173  
following to act as a deputy registrar: 174

(a) Any elected public official other than a county 175  
auditor or, as authorized by division (A) (1) of this section, a 176  
clerk of a court of common pleas, acting in an official 177  
capacity, except that, the registrar shall continue and may 178  
renew a contract with any deputy registrar who, subsequent to 179  
being awarded a deputy registrar contract, is elected to an 180  
office of a political subdivision; 181

(b) Any person holding a current, valid contract to 182  
conduct motor vehicle inspections under section 3704.14 of the 183  
Revised Code. 184

(3) As used in division (B) of this section, "political 185  
subdivision" has the same meaning as in section 3501.01 of the 186  
Revised Code. 187

(C) (1) Except as provided in division (C) (2) of this 188  
section, deputy registrars are independent contractors and 189  
neither they nor their employees are employees of this state, 190  
except that nothing in this section shall affect the status of 191  
county auditors or clerks of courts of common pleas as public 192  
officials, nor the status of their employees as employees of any 193  
of the counties of this state, which are political subdivisions 194  
of this state. Each deputy registrar shall be responsible for 195  
the payment of all unemployment compensation premiums, all 196  
workers' compensation premiums, social security contributions, 197  
and any and all taxes for which the deputy registrar is legally 198  
responsible. Each deputy registrar shall comply with all 199  
applicable federal, state, and local laws requiring the 200  
withholding of income taxes or other taxes from the compensation 201  
of the deputy registrar's employees. Each deputy registrar shall 202  
maintain during the entire term of the deputy registrar's 203  
contract a policy of business liability insurance satisfactory 204  
to the registrar and shall hold the department of public safety, 205  
the director of public safety, the bureau of motor vehicles, and 206  
the registrar harmless upon any and all claims for damages 207  
arising out of the operation of the deputy registrar agency. 208

(2) For purposes of Chapter 4141. of the Revised Code, 209  
determinations concerning the employment of deputy registrars 210  
and their employees shall be made under Chapter 4141. of the 211

Revised Code. 212

(D) (1) With the approval of the director, the registrar 213  
shall adopt rules governing deputy registrars. The rules shall 214  
do all of the following: 215

(a) Establish requirements governing the terms of the 216  
contract between the registrar and each deputy registrar and the 217  
services to be performed; 218

(b) Establish requirements governing the amount of bond to 219  
be given as provided in this section; 220

(c) Establish requirements governing the size and location 221  
of the deputy's office; 222

(d) Establish requirements governing the leasing of 223  
equipment necessary to conduct the vision screenings required 224  
under section 4507.12 of the Revised Code and training in the 225  
use of the equipment; 226

(e) Encourage every deputy registrar to inform the public 227  
of the location of the deputy registrar's office and hours of 228  
operation by means of public service announcements; 229

(f) Allow any deputy registrar to advertise in regard to 230  
the operation of the deputy registrar's office, including 231  
allowing nonprofit corporations operating as a deputy registrar 232  
to advertise that a specified amount of proceeds collected by 233  
the nonprofit corporation are directed to a specified charitable 234  
organization or philanthropic cause; 235

(g) Specify the hours the deputy's office is to be open to 236  
the public and require as a minimum that one deputy's office in 237  
each county be open to the public for at least four hours each 238  
weekend, provided that if only one deputy's office is located 239

within the boundary of the county seat, that office is the 240  
office that shall be open for the four-hour period each weekend; 241

(h) Specify that every deputy registrar, upon request, 242  
provide any person with information about the location and 243  
office hours of all deputy registrars in the county; 244

(i) Allow a deputy registrar contract to be awarded to a 245  
nonprofit corporation formed under the laws of this state; 246

(j) Establish procedures for a deputy registrar to request 247  
the authority to collect reinstatement fees under sections 248  
4507.1612, 4507.45, 4509.101, 4509.81, 4510.10, 4510.22, 249  
4510.72, and 4511.191 of the Revised Code and to transmit the 250  
reinstatement fees and two dollars of the service fee collected 251  
under those sections. The registrar shall ensure that at least 252  
one deputy registrar in each county has the necessary equipment 253  
and is able to accept reinstatement fees. The registrar shall 254  
deposit the service fees received from a deputy registrar under 255  
those sections into the public safety - highway purposes fund 256  
created in section 4501.06 of the Revised Code and shall use the 257  
money for deputy registrar equipment necessary in connection 258  
with accepting reinstatement fees. 259

(k) Establish standards for a deputy registrar, when the 260  
deputy registrar is not a county auditor or a clerk of a court 261  
of common pleas, to sell advertising rights to third party 262  
businesses to be placed in the deputy registrar's office; 263

(l) Allow any deputy registrar that is not a county 264  
auditor or a clerk of a court of common pleas to operate a 265  
vending machine; 266

(m) Specify that each deputy registrar and driver 267  
examination location shall display at all times, in a prominent 268

place on the premises, a graphic that instructs drivers to stop 269  
and yield to a stopped school bus when it is either loading or 270  
unloading passengers. 271

The registrar shall create and issue the graphic for 272  
distribution to and display at each deputy registrar and driver 273  
examination location. The registrar also shall display the 274  
graphic on the bureau of motor vehicle's web site. 275

(n) Establish such other requirements as the registrar and 276  
director consider necessary to provide a high level of service. 277

(2) The rules may allow both of the following: 278

(a) The registrar to award a contract to a deputy 279  
registrar to operate more than one deputy registrar's office if 280  
determined by the registrar to be practical; 281

(b) A nonprofit corporation formed for the purposes of 282  
providing automobile-related services to its members or the 283  
public and that provides such services from more than one 284  
location in this state to operate a deputy registrar office at 285  
any location. 286

(3) As a daily adjustment, the bureau of motor vehicles 287  
shall credit to a deputy registrar the amount established under 288  
section 4503.038 of the Revised Code for each damaged license 289  
plate or validation sticker the deputy registrar replaces as a 290  
service to a member of the public. 291

(4) (a) With the prior approval of the registrar, each 292  
deputy registrar may conduct at the location of the deputy 293  
registrar's office any business that is consistent with the 294  
functions of a deputy registrar and that is not specifically 295  
mandated or authorized by this or another chapter of the Revised 296  
Code or by implementing rules of the registrar. 297

(b) In accordance with guidelines the director of public 298  
safety shall establish, a deputy registrar may operate or 299  
contract for the operation of a vending machine at a deputy 300  
registrar location if products of the vending machine are 301  
consistent with the functions of a deputy registrar. 302

(c) A deputy registrar may enter into an agreement with 303  
the Ohio turnpike and infrastructure commission pursuant to 304  
division (A) (11) of section 5537.04 of the Revised Code for the 305  
purpose of allowing the general public to acquire from the 306  
deputy registrar the electronic toll collection devices that are 307  
used under the multi-jurisdiction electronic toll collection 308  
agreement between the Ohio turnpike and infrastructure 309  
commission and any other entities or agencies that participate 310  
in such an agreement. The approval of the registrar is not 311  
necessary if a deputy registrar engages in this activity. 312

(5) As used in this section and in section 4507.01 of the 313  
Revised Code, "nonprofit corporation" has the same meaning as in 314  
section 1702.01 of the Revised Code. 315

(E) (1) Unless otherwise terminated and except for interim 316  
contracts lasting not longer than one year, contracts with 317  
deputy registrars shall be entered into through a competitive 318  
selection process and shall be limited in duration as follows: 319

(a) For contracts entered into between July 1, 1996 and 320  
June 29, 2014, for a period of not less than two years, but not 321  
more than three years; 322

(b) For contracts entered into on or after June 29, 2014, 323  
for a period of five years, unless the registrar determines that 324  
a shorter contract term is appropriate for a particular deputy 325  
registrar. 326

(2) All contracts with deputy registrars shall expire on 327  
the last Saturday of June in the year of their expiration. Prior 328  
to the expiration of any deputy registrar contract, the 329  
registrar, with the approval of the director, may award a one- 330  
year contract extension to any deputy registrar who has provided 331  
exemplary service based upon objective performance evaluations. 332

(3) (a) The auditor of state may examine the accounts, 333  
reports, systems, and other data of each deputy registrar at 334  
least every two years. The registrar, with the approval of the 335  
director, shall immediately remove a deputy who violates any 336  
provision of the Revised Code related to the duties as a deputy, 337  
any rule adopted by the registrar, or a term of the deputy's 338  
contract with the registrar. The registrar also may remove a 339  
deputy who, in the opinion of the registrar, has engaged in any 340  
conduct that is either unbecoming to one representing this state 341  
or is inconsistent with the efficient operation of the deputy's 342  
office. 343

(b) If the registrar, with the approval of the director, 344  
determines that there is good cause to believe that a deputy 345  
registrar or a person proposing for a deputy registrar contract 346  
has engaged in any conduct that would require the denial or 347  
termination of the deputy registrar contract, the registrar may 348  
require the production of books, records, and papers as the 349  
registrar determines are necessary, and may take the depositions 350  
of witnesses residing within or outside the state in the same 351  
manner as is prescribed by law for the taking of depositions in 352  
civil actions in the court of common pleas, and for that purpose 353  
the registrar may issue a subpoena for any witness or a subpoena 354  
duces tecum to compel the production of any books, records, or 355  
papers, directed to the sheriff of the county where the witness 356  
resides or is found. Such a subpoena shall be served and 357

returned in the same manner as a subpoena in a criminal case is 358  
served and returned. The fees of the sheriff shall be the same 359  
as that allowed in the court of common pleas in criminal cases. 360  
Witnesses shall be paid the fees and mileage provided for under 361  
section 119.094 of the Revised Code. The fees and mileage shall 362  
be paid from the fund in the state treasury for the use of the 363  
agency in the same manner as other expenses of the agency are 364  
paid. 365

In any case of disobedience or neglect of any subpoena 366  
served on any person or the refusal of any witness to testify to 367  
any matter regarding which the witness lawfully may be 368  
interrogated, the court of common pleas of any county where the 369  
disobedience, neglect, or refusal occurs or any judge of that 370  
court, on application by the registrar, shall compel obedience 371  
by attachment proceedings for contempt, as in the case of 372  
disobedience of the requirements of a subpoena issued from that 373  
court, or a refusal to testify in that court. 374

(4) Nothing in division (E) of this section shall be 375  
construed to require a hearing of any nature prior to the 376  
termination of any deputy registrar contract by the registrar, 377  
with the approval of the director, for cause. 378

(F) Except as provided in section 2743.03 of the Revised 379  
Code, no court, other than the court of common pleas of Franklin 380  
county, has jurisdiction of any action against the department of 381  
public safety, the director, the bureau, or the registrar to 382  
restrain the exercise of any power or authority, or to entertain 383  
any action for declaratory judgment, in the selection and 384  
appointment of, or contracting with, deputy registrars. Neither 385  
the department, the director, the bureau, nor the registrar is 386  
liable in any action at law for damages sustained by any person 387

because of any acts of the department, the director, the bureau, 388  
or the registrar, or of any employee of the department or 389  
bureau, in the performance of official duties in the selection 390  
and appointment of, and contracting with, deputy registrars. 391

(G) The registrar shall assign to each deputy registrar a 392  
series of numbers sufficient to supply the demand at all times 393  
in the area the deputy registrar serves, and the registrar shall 394  
keep a record in the registrar's office of the numbers within 395  
the series assigned. Except as otherwise provided in section 396  
3.061 of the Revised Code, each deputy shall be required to give 397  
bond in the amount of at least twenty-five thousand dollars, or 398  
in such higher amount as the registrar determines necessary, 399  
based on a uniform schedule of bond amounts established by the 400  
registrar and determined by the volume of registrations handled 401  
by the deputy. The form of the bond shall be prescribed by the 402  
registrar. The bonds required of deputy registrars, in the 403  
discretion of the registrar, may be individual or schedule bonds 404  
or may be included in any blanket bond coverage carried by the 405  
department. 406

(H) Each deputy registrar shall keep a file of each 407  
application received by the deputy and shall register that motor 408  
vehicle with the name and address of its owner. 409

(I) Upon request, a deputy registrar shall make the 410  
physical inspection of a motor vehicle and issue the physical 411  
inspection certificate required in section 4505.061 of the 412  
Revised Code. 413

(J) Each deputy registrar shall file a report semiannually 414  
with the registrar of motor vehicles listing the number of 415  
applicants for licenses the deputy has served, the number of 416  
voter registration applications the deputy has completed and 417

transmitted to the board of elections, and the number of voter 418  
registration applications declined. 419

**Sec. 4510.036.** (A) The bureau of motor vehicles shall 420  
record within ten days of conviction or bail forfeiture and 421  
shall keep at its main office, all abstracts received under this 422  
section or section 4510.03, 4510.031, 4510.032, or 4510.034 of 423  
the Revised Code and shall maintain records of convictions and 424  
bond forfeitures for any violation of a state law or a municipal 425  
ordinance regulating the operation of vehicles, streetcars, and 426  
trackless trolleys on highways and streets, except a violation 427  
related to parking a motor vehicle. 428

(B) Every court of record or mayor's court before which a 429  
person is charged with a violation for which points are 430  
chargeable by this section shall assess and transcribe to the 431  
abstract of conviction that is furnished by the bureau to the 432  
court the number of points chargeable by this section in the 433  
correct space assigned on the reporting form. A United States 434  
district court that has jurisdiction within this state and 435  
before which a person is charged with a violation for which 436  
points are chargeable by this section may assess and transcribe 437  
to the abstract of conviction report that is furnished by the 438  
bureau the number of points chargeable by this section in the 439  
correct space assigned on the reporting form. If the federal 440  
court so assesses and transcribes the points chargeable for the 441  
offense and furnishes the report to the bureau, the bureau shall 442  
record the points in the same manner as those assessed and 443  
transcribed by a court of record or mayor's court. 444

(C) A court shall assess the following points for an 445  
offense based on the following formula: 446

(1) Aggravated vehicular homicide, vehicular homicide, 447

vehicular manslaughter, aggravated vehicular assault, or 448  
vehicular assault when the offense involves the operation of a 449  
vehicle, streetcar, or trackless trolley on a highway or street 450  
\_\_\_\_\_ 6 points 451

(2) A violation of section 2921.331 of the Revised Code or 452  
any ordinance prohibiting the willful fleeing or eluding of a 453  
law enforcement officer \_\_\_\_\_ 6 points 454

(3) A violation of section 4549.02 or 4549.021 of the 455  
Revised Code or any ordinance requiring the driver of a vehicle 456  
to stop and disclose identity at the scene of an accident 457  
\_\_\_\_\_ 6 points 458

(4) A violation of section 4511.251 of the Revised Code or 459  
any ordinance prohibiting street racing, stunt driving, or 460  
street takeover \_\_\_\_\_ 6 points 461

(5) A violation of section 4510.037 of the Revised Code or 462  
any ordinance prohibiting the operation of a motor vehicle while 463  
the driver's or commercial driver's license is under a twelve- 464  
point suspension \_\_\_\_\_ 6 points 465

(6) A violation of section 4510.14 of the Revised Code, or 466  
any ordinance prohibiting the operation of a motor vehicle upon 467  
the public roads or highways within this state while the 468  
driver's or commercial driver's license of the person is under 469  
suspension and the suspension was imposed under section 4511.19, 470  
4511.191, or 4511.196 of the Revised Code or section 4510.07 of 471  
the Revised Code due to a conviction for a violation of a 472  
municipal OVI ordinance or any ordinance prohibiting the 473  
operation of a motor vehicle while the driver's or commercial 474  
driver's license is under suspension for an OVI offense 475  
\_\_\_\_\_ 6 points 476

(7) A violation of division (A) of section 4511.19 of the Revised Code, any ordinance prohibiting the operation of a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, a drug of abuse, or a combination of them, or any ordinance substantially equivalent to division (A) of section 4511.19 of the Revised Code prohibiting the operation of a vehicle with a prohibited concentration of alcohol, a controlled substance, or a metabolite of a controlled substance in the whole blood, blood serum or plasma, breath, or urine \_\_\_\_\_ 6 points

(8) A violation of section 2913.03 of the Revised Code that does not involve an aircraft or motorboat or any ordinance prohibiting the operation of a vehicle without the consent of the owner \_\_\_\_\_ 6 points

(9) Any offense under the motor vehicle laws of this state that is a felony, or any other felony in the commission of which a motor vehicle was used \_\_\_\_\_ 6 points

(10) A violation of division (B) of section 4511.19 of the Revised Code or any ordinance substantially equivalent to that division prohibiting the operation of a vehicle with a prohibited concentration of alcohol in the whole blood, blood serum or plasma, breath, or urine \_\_\_\_\_ 4 points

(11) A violation of section 4511.20 of the Revised Code or any ordinance prohibiting the operation of a motor vehicle in willful or wanton disregard of the safety of persons or property \_\_\_\_\_ 4 points

(12) A violation of any law or ordinance pertaining to speed:

(a) Notwithstanding divisions (C) (12) (b) and (c) of this section, when the speed exceeds the lawful speed limit by thirty

|                                                                   |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| miles per hour or more _____ 4 points                             | 506 |
| (b) When the speed exceeds the lawful speed limit of              | 507 |
| fifty-five miles per hour or more by more than ten miles per      | 508 |
| hour _____ 2 points                                               | 509 |
| (c) When the speed exceeds the lawful speed limit of less         | 510 |
| than fifty-five miles per hour by more than five miles per hour   | 511 |
| _____ 2 points                                                    | 512 |
| (d) When the speed does not exceed the amounts set forth          | 513 |
| in divisions (C) (12) (a), (b), or (c) of this section _____      | 514 |
| 0 points                                                          | 515 |
| (13) A violation of division (A) of section 4511.204 of           | 516 |
| the Revised Code or any substantially similar municipal           | 517 |
| ordinance:                                                        | 518 |
| (a) For a first offense within any two-year period                | 519 |
| _____ 2 points                                                    | 520 |
| (b) For a second offense within any two-year period               | 521 |
| _____ 3 points                                                    | 522 |
| (c) For a third or subsequent offense within any two-year         | 523 |
| period _____ 4 points.                                            | 524 |
| (14) <u>A violation of division (A) of section 4511.75 of the</u> | 525 |
| <u>Revised Code:</u>                                              | 526 |
| (a) <u>For a first offense within any five-year period</u>        | 527 |
| <u>2 points</u>                                                   | 528 |
| (b) <u>For a second or subsequent offense within any five-</u>    | 529 |
| <u>year period _____ 4 points.</u>                                | 530 |
| (15) <u>Operating a motor vehicle in violation of a</u>           | 531 |
| <u>restriction imposed by the registrar _____ 2 points</u>        | 532 |

~~(15)~~—(16) A violation of section 4510.11, 4510.111,  
4510.16, or 4510.21 of the Revised Code or any ordinance  
prohibiting the operation of a motor vehicle while the driver's  
or commercial driver's license is under suspension \_\_\_\_\_ 2  
points

~~(16)~~—(17) With the exception of violations under section  
4510.12 of the Revised Code where no points shall be assessed,  
all other moving violations reported under this section  
\_\_\_\_\_ 2 points

(D) Upon receiving notification from the proper court,  
including a United States district court that has jurisdiction  
within this state, the bureau shall delete any points entered  
for a bond forfeiture if the driver is acquitted of the offense  
for which bond was posted.

(E) If a person is convicted of or forfeits bail for two  
or more offenses arising out of the same facts and points are  
chargeable for each of the offenses, points shall be charged for  
only the conviction or bond forfeiture for which the greater  
number of points is chargeable, and, if the number of points  
chargeable for each offense is equal, only one offense shall be  
recorded, and points shall be charged only for that offense.

**Sec. 4511.75.** ~~(A)~~—(A) (1) The driver of a vehicle,  
streetcar, or trackless trolley upon meeting or overtaking from  
either direction any school bus stopped for the purpose of  
receiving or discharging any school child, person attending  
programs offered by community boards of mental health and county  
boards of developmental disabilities, or child attending a  
program offered by a head start agency, shall stop at least ten  
feet from the front or rear of the school bus and shall not  
proceed until such school bus resumes motion, or until signaled

by the school bus driver or a law enforcement officer to 563  
proceed. 564

(2) It is no defense to a charge under ~~this~~ division (A) 565  
(1) of this section that the school bus involved failed to 566  
display or be equipped with an automatically extended stop 567  
warning sign as required by division (B) of this section. 568

(B) Every school bus shall be equipped with amber and red 569  
visual signals meeting the requirements of section 4511.771 of 570  
the Revised Code, and an automatically extended stop warning 571  
sign of a type approved by the department of education and 572  
workforce, which shall be actuated by the driver of the bus 573  
whenever but only whenever the bus is stopped or stopping on the 574  
roadway for the purpose of receiving or discharging school 575  
children, persons attending programs offered by community boards 576  
of mental health and county boards of developmental 577  
disabilities, or children attending programs offered by head 578  
start agencies. A school bus driver shall not actuate the visual 579  
signals or the stop warning sign in designated school bus 580  
loading areas where the bus is entirely off the roadway or at 581  
school buildings when children or persons attending programs 582  
offered by community boards of mental health and county boards 583  
of developmental disabilities are loading or unloading at 584  
curbside or at buildings when children attending programs 585  
offered by head start agencies are loading or unloading at 586  
curbside. The visual signals and stop warning sign shall be 587  
synchronized or otherwise operated as required by rule of the 588  
board. 589

(C) Where a highway has been divided into four or more 590  
traffic lanes, a driver of a vehicle, streetcar, or trackless 591  
trolley need not stop for a school bus approaching from the 592

opposite direction which has stopped for the purpose of 593  
receiving or discharging any school child, persons attending 594  
programs offered by community boards of mental health and county 595  
boards of developmental disabilities, or children attending 596  
programs offered by head start agencies. The driver of any 597  
vehicle, streetcar, or trackless trolley overtaking the school 598  
bus shall comply with division (A) of this section. 599

(D) School buses operating on divided highways or on 600  
highways with four or more traffic lanes shall receive and 601  
discharge all school children, persons attending programs 602  
offered by community boards of mental health and county boards 603  
of developmental disabilities, and children attending programs 604  
offered by head start agencies on their residence side of the 605  
highway. 606

(E) No school bus driver shall start the driver's bus 607  
until after any child, person attending programs offered by 608  
community boards of mental health and county boards of 609  
developmental disabilities, or child attending a program offered 610  
by a head start agency who may have alighted therefrom has 611  
reached a place of safety on the child's or person's residence 612  
side of the road. 613

~~(F)(1)~~ (F) Whoever violates division (A) of this section 614  
~~may be fined an amount~~ is guilty of passing a stopped school 615  
bus, an unclassified misdemeanor. The court, including a mayor's 616  
court, shall punish the offender in accordance with divisions 617  
(F)(1) to (6) of this section. 618

(1)(a) Except as provided in divisions (F)(1)(b) and (c) 619  
of this section, the court shall impose upon the offender a fine 620  
of not to exceed five less than two hundred fifty and not more 621  
than one thousand dollars. A- 622

(b) If, within five years of the violation, the offender 623  
has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a prior violation of 624  
this section, the court shall impose upon the offender a fine of 625  
not less than three hundred fifty and not more than two thousand 626  
dollars. 627

(c) In lieu of the fine range specified in division (F) (1) 628  
(a) of this section, the court may impose a fine of one hundred 629  
fifty dollars for an offender who has not been convicted of or 630  
pleaded guilty to a prior violation of this section if the 631  
offender attends and successfully completes the school bus 632  
safety course described in division (F) (4) of this section 633  
within a time frame specified by the court. 634

(2) A person who is issued a citation for a violation of 635  
division (A) of this section is not permitted to enter a written 636  
plea of guilty and waive the person's right to contest the 637  
citation in a trial but instead must appear in person in the 638  
proper court to answer the charge. 639

~~(2) In addition to and independent of any other penalty~~ 640  
~~provided by law, the~~ (3) (a) Except as otherwise provided in 641  
division (F) (3) (b) of this section, the court or mayor may 642  
impose upon an the offender who violates this section a class 643  
~~seven six~~ suspension of the offender's driver's license, 644  
commercial driver's license, temporary instruction permit, 645  
probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege from 646  
the range specified in division (A) (7) (A) (6) of section 4510.02 647  
of the Revised Code. When— 648

(b) If, within five years of the violation, the offender 649  
has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a prior violation of 650  
this section, the court shall impose upon the offender a class 651  
five suspension of the offender's driver's license, commercial 652

driver's license, temporary instruction permit, probationary 653  
license, or nonresident operating privilege from the range 654  
specified in division (A) (5) of section 4510.02 of the Revised 655  
Code. 656

(c) When a license is suspended under this section, the 657  
court ~~or mayor~~ shall cause the offender to deliver the license 658  
to the court, and the court or clerk of the court immediately 659  
shall forward the license to the registrar of motor vehicles, 660  
together with notice of the court's action. 661

(4) If, within five years of the violation, the offender 662  
has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a prior violation of 663  
this section, the court shall require the offender to attend and 664  
successfully complete a school bus safety course. The director 665  
of public safety shall develop the contents and determine the 666  
duration of the course. 667

(5) (a) Except as provided in division (F) (5) (b) of this 668  
section, the court shall assess points for the violation in 669  
accordance with section 4510.036 of the Revised Code. 670

(b) The court may waive the assessment of points for an 671  
offender who has not been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a 672  
prior violation of this section if the offender attends and 673  
successfully completes the school bus safety course described in 674  
division (F) (4) of this section within a time frame specified by 675  
the court. 676

(6) The court may impose any other penalty authorized 677  
under sections 2929.21 to 2929.28 of the Revised Code. However, 678  
the court shall not impose a fine or a suspension not otherwise 679  
specified in division (F) of this section. The court also shall 680  
not impose a jail term or community residential sanction. 681

(G) Any fine collected under this section shall be paid to 682  
the school bus safety fund created in section 3327.18 of the 683  
Revised Code and shall be used for the purposes established 684  
under that section. 685

(H) As used in this section: 686

(1) "Head start agency" has the same meaning as in section 687  
3301.32 of the Revised Code. 688

(2) "School bus," as used in relation to children who 689  
attend a program offered by a head start agency, means a bus 690  
that is owned and operated by a head start agency, is equipped 691  
with an automatically extended stop warning sign of a type 692  
approved by the department, is painted the color and displays 693  
the markings described in section 4511.77 of the Revised Code, 694  
and is equipped with amber and red visual signals meeting the 695  
requirements of section 4511.771 of the Revised Code, 696  
irrespective of whether or not the bus has fifteen or more 697  
children aboard at any time. "School bus" does not include a van 698  
owned and operated by a head start agency, irrespective of its 699  
color, lights, or markings. 700

**Sec. 4511.751.** (A) As used in this section, "license 701  
plate" includes, but is not limited to, any temporary motor 702  
vehicle license registration issued under section 4503.182 of 703  
the Revised Code or similar law of another jurisdiction. 704

(B) When the operator of a school bus believes that a 705  
motorist has violated division (A) of section 4511.75 of the 706  
Revised Code, the operator shall report the license plate number 707  
and a general description of the vehicle and of the operator of 708  
the vehicle to the law enforcement agency exercising 709  
jurisdiction over the area where the alleged violation occurred. 710

The information contained in the report relating to the license 711  
plate number and to the general description of the vehicle and 712  
the operator of the vehicle at the time of the alleged violation 713  
may be supplied by any person with first-hand knowledge of the 714  
information. Information of which the operator of the school bus 715  
has first-hand knowledge also may be corroborated by any other 716  
person, or an image, images, or video captured by a school bus 717  
camera installed pursuant to section 4511.76 of the Revised 718  
Code. 719

(C) (1) Upon receipt of the report of the alleged violation 720  
of division (A) of section 4511.75 of the Revised Code, the law 721  
enforcement agency shall conduct an investigation to attempt to 722  
determine or confirm the identity of the operator of the vehicle 723  
at the time of the alleged violation. ~~If~~ 724

(2) If the identity of the operator at the time of the 725  
alleged violation is established, the reporting of the license 726  
plate number of the vehicle shall establish probable cause for 727  
the law enforcement agency to issue a citation for the violation 728  
of division (A) of section 4511.75 of the Revised Code. ~~However,~~ 729  
~~if~~ 730

(3) If the identity of the operator of the vehicle at the 731  
time of the alleged violation cannot be established, the law 732  
enforcement agency shall issue a warning to the owner of the 733  
vehicle at the time of the alleged violation, except in the case 734  
of a leased or rented vehicle when the warning shall be issued 735  
to the lessee at the time of the alleged violation. 736

(4) A law enforcement agency shall not issue a citation in 737  
accordance with this section based solely on an image, images, 738  
or video captured by a camera installed pursuant to section 739  
4511.76 of the Revised Code, but such image, images, or video 740

may corroborate other evidence and a report made in accordance 741  
with this section. 742

(D) (1) The registrar of motor vehicles and deputy 743  
registrars shall provide access to, at the time of issuing 744  
license plates or a driver's license to any person, ~~include with~~ 745  
~~the license plate~~ a summary of the following: 746

(a) The requirements of division (A) of section 4511.75 of 747  
the Revised Code ~~and the~~; 748

(b) The procedures ~~of~~ and penalty in ~~7~~ division (F) of 749  
section 4511.75 of the Revised Code ~~;~~; 750

(c) The process, described in division (B) of this 751  
section, that allows any person with first-hand knowledge of a 752  
violation of division (A) of section 4511.75 of the Revised Code 753  
to corroborate the report made by the operator of a school bus. 754

(2) The registrar shall make the summaries required under 755  
division (D) (1) of this section available on the bureau of motor 756  
vehicles' web site. 757

**Sec. 4511.76.** (A) The department of public safety, by and 758  
with the advice of the department of education and workforce, 759  
shall educate the public regarding the laws pertaining to school 760  
bus safety and shall adopt and enforce rules relating to the 761  
construction, design, and equipment of all school buses both 762  
publicly and privately owned and operated in this state, 763  
including ~~lighting~~ rules governing both of the following: 764

(1) Lighting equipment required by section 4511.771 of the 765  
Revised Code, ~~of all school buses both publicly and privately~~ 766  
~~owned and operated in this state;~~ 767

(2) School bus camera equipment that captures an image, 768

images, or video solely for purposes of recording a violation of 769  
section 4511.75 of the Revised Code. The departments shall not 770  
authorize school bus camera equipment to be used for automated 771  
enforcement of a violation of section 4511.75 of the Revised 772  
Code. 773

(B) The department of education and workforce, by and with 774  
the advice of the director of public safety, shall adopt and 775  
enforce rules relating to the operation of all vehicles used for 776  
pupil transportation. 777

(C) No person shall operate a vehicle used for pupil 778  
transportation within this state in violation of the rules of 779  
the department of education and workforce or the department of 780  
public safety. No person, being the owner thereof or having the 781  
supervisory responsibility therefor, shall permit the operation 782  
of a vehicle used for pupil transportation within this state in 783  
violation of the rules of the department of education and 784  
workforce or the department of public safety. 785

(D) The department of public safety shall adopt and 786  
enforce rules relating to the issuance of a license under 787  
section 4511.763 of the Revised Code. The rules may relate to 788  
the condition of the equipment to be operated; the liability and 789  
property damage insurance carried by the applicant; the posting 790  
of satisfactory and sufficient bond; and such other rules as the 791  
director of public safety determines reasonably necessary for 792  
the safety of the pupils to be transported. 793

(E) A chartered nonpublic school or a community school may 794  
own and operate, or contract with a vendor that supplies, a 795  
vehicle originally designed and manufactured for not more than 796  
nine-ten passengers, ~~not~~ including the driver, to transport 797  
students to and from regularly scheduled school sessions when 798

one of the following applies: 799

(1) A student's school district of residence has declared 800  
the transportation of the student impractical pursuant to 801  
section 3327.02 of the Revised Code; 802

(2) A student does not live within thirty minutes of the 803  
chartered nonpublic school or the community school, as 804  
applicable, and the student's school district is not required to 805  
transport the student under section 3327.01 of the Revised Code; 806

(3) The governing authority of the chartered nonpublic 807  
school or the community school has offered to provide the 808  
transportation for its students in lieu of the students being 809  
transported by their school district of residence. 810

(F) A school district may own and operate, or contract 811  
with a vendor that supplies, a vehicle originally designed and 812  
manufactured for not more than ~~nine-ten~~ passengers, ~~not~~ 813  
including the driver, to transport students to and from 814  
regularly scheduled school sessions, if both of the following 815  
apply to the operation of that vehicle: 816

(1) The number of students to be transported is not more 817  
than nine; 818

(2) The students attend a chartered nonpublic school or a 819  
community school, and the school district regularly transports 820  
students to that chartered nonpublic school or that community 821  
school. 822

(G) A school district or the governing authority of a 823  
chartered nonpublic school or community school that uses a 824  
vehicle originally designed and manufactured for not more than 825  
~~nine-ten~~ passengers, ~~not~~ including the driver, in accordance 826  
with division (E) or (F) of this section, shall ensure that all 827

of the following apply to the operation of that vehicle: 828

(1) A qualified mechanic inspects the vehicle not fewer 829  
than two times each year and determines that it is safe for 830  
pupil transportation; 831

(2) The driver of the vehicle does not stop on the roadway 832  
to load or unload passengers; 833

(3) The driver of the vehicle meets the requirements 834  
specified for a driver of a school bus or motor van under 835  
section 3327.10 of the Revised Code and any corresponding rules 836  
adopted by the department of education and workforce. 837  
Notwithstanding that section or any department rules to the 838  
contrary, the driver is not required to have a commercial 839  
driver's license but shall have a current, valid driver's 840  
license, and shall be accustomed to operating the vehicle used 841  
to transport the students; 842

(4) The driver and all passengers in the vehicle comply 843  
with the requirements of sections 4511.81 and 4513.263 of the 844  
Revised Code, as applicable. 845

(H) As used in this section, "vehicle used for pupil 846  
transportation" means any vehicle that is identified as such by 847  
the department of education and workforce by rule and that is 848  
subject to Chapter 3301-83 of the Administrative Code. 849

(I) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 850  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If the 851  
offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to 852  
one or more violations of this section or section 4511.63, 853  
4511.761, 4511.762, 4511.764, 4511.77, or 4511.79 of the Revised 854  
Code or a municipal ordinance that is substantially similar to 855  
any of those sections, whoever violates this section is guilty 856

of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. 857

**Section 2.** That existing sections 4503.03, 4510.036, 858  
4511.75, 4511.751, and 4511.76 of the Revised Code are hereby 859  
repealed. 860

**Section 3.** All items in this act are hereby appropriated 861  
as designated out of any moneys in the state treasury to the 862  
credit of the designated fund. For all operating appropriations 863  
made in this act, those in the first column are for fiscal year 864  
2026 and those in the second column are for fiscal year 2027. 865  
The operating appropriations made in this act are in addition to 866  
any other operating appropriations made for these fiscal years. 867

**Section 4.** 868  
869

|   | 1                                         | 2      | 3                 | 4            | 5   |
|---|-------------------------------------------|--------|-------------------|--------------|-----|
| A | EDU DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE |        |                   |              |     |
| B | State Lottery Fund Group                  |        |                   |              |     |
| C | 7017                                      | 200413 | School Bus Safety | \$10,000,000 | \$0 |
| D | State Lottery Fund Group Total            |        |                   | \$10,000,000 | \$0 |
| E | TOTAL ALL BUDGET FUND GROUPS              |        |                   | \$10,000,000 | \$0 |

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY 870

Of the foregoing appropriation item 200413, School Bus 871  
Safety, up to \$100,000 in fiscal year 2026 may be used by the 872  
Department of Education and Workforce to administer the school 873  
bus safety grant program under section 3327.19 of the Revised 874  
Code. 875

The remainder of the foregoing appropriation item 200413, 876  
School Bus Safety, shall be used to award school bus safety 877  
grants pursuant to section 3327.19 of the Revised Code. 878

Any unexpended and unencumbered portion of the foregoing 879  
appropriation item 200413, School Bus Safety, at the end of 880  
fiscal year 2026 is hereby reappropriated for the same purpose 881  
in fiscal year 2027. 882

**Section 5.** Within the limits set forth in this act, the 883  
Director of Budget and Management shall establish accounts 884  
indicating the source and amount of funds for each appropriation 885  
made in this act, and shall determine the manner in which 886  
appropriation accounts shall be maintained. Expenditures from 887  
operating appropriations contained in this act shall be 888  
accounted for as though made in, and are subject to all 889  
applicable provisions of, the main operating appropriations act 890  
of the 136th General Assembly. 891

**Section 6.** This act shall be known as the School Bus 892  
Safety Act. 893