## As Reported by the House Agriculture Committee

# 136th General Assembly

# **Regular Session**

H. B. No. 433

#### 2025-2026

### Representatives Klopfenstein, Fowler Arthur

Cosponsors: Representatives John, Newman, Gross, Glassburn, Thomas, D., Daniels, Miller, J.

То	amend sections 993.01 and 993.04 of the Revised	1
	Code to alter the current amusement ride	2
	classification structure for purposes of the	3
	annual inspection and reinspection fees	_

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

Section 1. That sections 993.01 and 993.04 of the Revised	5
Code be amended to read as follows:	6
Sec. 993.01. As used in this chapter:	7
(A) "Amusement ride" means any mechanical, aquatic, or	8
inflatable device, or combination of those devices that carries	9
or conveys passengers on, along, around, over, or through a	10
fixed or restricted course or within a defined area for the	11
purpose of providing amusement, pleasure, or excitement.	12
"Amusement ride" includes carnival rides, bungee jumping	13
facilities, and fair rides, but does not include passenger	14
tramways as defined in section 4169.01 of the Revised Code,	15
manufactured rock climbing walls in climbing facilities	16
regulated under Chapter 4175. of the Revised Code, or amusement	17
rides operated solely at trade shows for a limited period of	18
time. For purposes of this division, "trade show" means a place	19

(I) "Repair" means to restore an amusement ride to a	48
condition equal to or better than original design	49
specifications.	50
(J) "Maintenance" means the preservation and upkeep of an	51
amusement ride for the purpose of maintaining its designed	52
operational capability.	53
(K) "Inspection" means a physical examination of an	54
amusement ride by an inspector for the purpose of approving the	55
application for a permit. "Inspection" includes a reinspection.	56
(L) "Accident" means an occurrence during the operation of	57
an amusement ride that results in death or injury requiring	58
immediate hospital admission.	59
(M) "Serious injury" means an injury that does not require	60
immediate hospital admission but does require medical treatment,	61
other than first aid, by a physician.	62
(N) "First aid" means the one-time treatment or subsequent	63
observation of scratches, cuts not requiring stitches, burns,	64
splinters, and contusions or a diagnostic procedure, including	65
examinations and x-rays, that does not ordinarily require	66
medical treatment even though provided by a physician or other	67
licensed professional personnel.	68
(O) "Advisory council" means the advisory council on	69
amusement ride safety created by section 993.02 of the Revised	70
Code.	71
(P) "Safe operation" means, except as provided in section	72
993.10 of the Revised Code, the practical application of	73
maintenance, inspection, and operational processes, as indicated	74
by the manufacturer, owner, or advisory council, that secures a	75
rider from threat of physical danger, harm, or loss.	76

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(Q) "Private facility" means any facility that is
accessible only to members of the facility and not accessible to
the general public, even upon payment of a fee or charge, and
that requires approval for membership by a membership committee
representing the current members who have a policy requiring
monetary payment to belong to the facility.

- (R) "Bungee jumping" means a fall or jump from a height by an individual who is attached to an elastic cord that prevents the individual from hitting the ground, water, or other solid, semi-solid, liquid, or elastic surface.
- (S) "Bungee jumping facility" means a device or structure 87 utilized for bungee jumping. 88
- (T) "Kiddie ride" means an amusement ride designed for use by children under thirteen years of age who are unaccompanied by another person. "Kiddie ride" includes a roller coaster that is not more than forty feet in elevation at any point on the ride.
- (U)—"Climbing facility" has the same meaning as in section 4175.01 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 993.04. (A)(1) No person shall operate an amusement 95 ride within the state without a permit issued by the director of 96 agriculture under division (A)(2) of this section. The owner of 97 an amusement ride, whether the ride is a temporary amusement 98 ride or a permanent amusement ride, who desires to operate the 99 amusement ride within the state shall, prior to the operation of 100 the amusement ride and annually thereafter, submit to the 101 department of agriculture an application for a permit, together 102 with the appropriate permit and inspection fee, on a form to be 103 furnished by the department. Prior to issuing any permit the 104 department shall, within thirty days after the date on which it 105

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receives the application, inspect each amusement ride described	106
in the application. The owner of an amusement ride shall have	107
the amusement ride ready for inspection not later than two hours	108
after the time that is requested by the person for the	109
inspection.	110
(2) For each amusement ride found to comply with the rules	111
adopted by the director under division (B) of this section and	112
division (B) of section 993.08 of the Revised Code, the director	113
shall issue an annual permit, provided that evidence of	114
liability insurance coverage for the amusement ride as required	115
by section 993.06 of the Revised Code is on file with the	116
department.	117
(3) The director shall issue with each permit a decal	118
indicating that the amusement ride has been issued the permit.	119
The owner of the amusement ride shall affix the decal on the	120
ride at a location where the decal is easily visible to the	121
patrons of the ride. A copy of the permit shall be kept on file	122
at the same address as the location of the amusement ride	123
identified on the permit, and shall be made available for	124
inspection, upon reasonable demand, by any person. An owner may	125
operate an amusement ride prior to obtaining a permit, provided	126
that the operation is for the purpose of testing the amusement	127
ride or training amusement ride operators and other employees of	128
the owner and the amusement ride is not open to the public.	129
(B)(1) The director, in accordance with Chapter 119. of	130
the Revised Code, shall adopt rules providing for both of the	131
following:	132

(a) A schedule of fines, with no fine exceeding five

thousand dollars, for violations of this chapter or any rules

adopted under this division;

(i) ASTM F1193-18;

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(b) The classification of amusement rides and rules for 136 the safe operation and inspection of all amusement rides as are 137 necessary for amusement ride safety and for the protection of 138 the general public. The classification of amusement rides must 139 identify those rides that need more comprehensive inspection and 140 testing in addition to regular state inspections, taking into 141 account hidden components integral to the safety of the ride. 142 (2) (a) Rules adopted by the director for the safe 143 operation and inspection of amusement rides shall be reasonable 144 and shall be based upon generally accepted engineering standards 145 and practices. The rules shall establish a minimum number of 146 inspections to be conducted on each ride depending on the size, 147 complexity, nature of the ride, and the number of days the ride 148 is in operation during the year for which the applicable permit 149 is valid. The rules also shall require the minimum number of 150 inspectors assigned to inspect a ride or rides to be reasonable 1.51 and adequate given the number, size, complexity, and nature of 152 the ride or rides. 153 (b) In adopting rules under this section, the director may 154 adopt by reference, in whole or in part, the national fire code 155 or the national electrical code (NEC) prepared by the national 156 fire protection association or the American national standards 157 institute (ANSI), or any other principles, tests, or standards 158 of nationally recognized technical or scientific authorities. 159 (c) In adopting rules under this section, the director 160 shall adopt, by reference, the following chapters of the 161 American society for testing and materials (ASTM) international 162 regarding amusement ride safety standards and any other 163 equivalent national standard: 164

(ii) ASTM F770-18;	166
(iii) ASTM F2291-18.	167
(d) Insofar as is practicable and consistent with this	168
chapter, rules adopted under this division shall be consistent	169
with the rules of other states.	170
(3) The department shall cause this chapter and the rules	171
adopted in accordance with this division and division (B) of	172
section 993.08 of the Revised Code to be published in pamphlet	173
form and a copy to be furnished without charge to each owner of	174
an amusement ride who holds a current permit or is an applicant	175
therefor.	176
(C) With respect to an application for a permit for an	177
amusement ride, an owner may apply to the director for a waiver	178
or modification of any rule adopted under division (B) of this	179
section if there are practical difficulties or unnecessary	180
hardships for the amusement ride to comply with the rules. Any	181
application shall set forth the reasons for the request. The	182
director, with the approval of the advisory council on amusement	183
ride safety, may waive or modify the application of a rule to	184
any amusement ride if the public safety is secure. Any	185
authorization by the director under this division shall be in	186
writing and shall set forth the conditions under which the	187
waiver or modification is authorized, and the department shall	188
retain separate records of all proceedings under this division.	189
(D)(1) The director shall employ and provide for training	190
of a chief inspector and additional inspectors and employees as	191
may be necessary to administer and enforce this chapter. The	192
director may appoint or contract with other persons to perform	193
inspections of amusement rides, provided that the persons meet	194

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the qualifications for inspectors established by rules adopted	195
under division (B) of this section and are not owners, or	196
employees of owners, of any amusement ride subject to inspection	197
under this chapter. When employing a new chief inspector or an	198
additional inspector after November 6, 2019, the director shall	199
give preference to the following:	200

- (a) An individual holding a level one or higher inspector

  certification from either the national association of amusement

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  ride safety officials (NAARSO), the amusement industry

  manufacturers and suppliers (AIMS) international, or another

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  substantially equivalent organization as determined by the

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  director; and
- (b) An individual who intends, within one year of being hired as an inspector, to complete the requirements for issuance of a level one or higher inspector certification from NAARSO, AIMS International, or another substantially equivalent organization as determined by the director.
- (2) No person shall inspect an amusement ride who, within six months prior to the date of inspection, was an employee of the owner of the ride.
- (3) Before the director contracts with other persons to inspect amusement rides, the director shall seek the advice of the advisory council on amusement ride safety on whether to contract with those persons. The advice shall not be binding upon the director. After having received the advice of the council, the director may proceed to contract with inspectors in accordance with the procedures specified in division (E)(2) of section 1711.11 of the Revised Code.
  - (4) With the advice and consent of the advisory council on

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amuseme	nt ride safety, the director may employ a special		224
	ant to conduct an independent investigation of an		225
amuseme	nt ride accident. This consultant need not be in the		226
civil s	ervice of the state, but shall have qualifications to	)	227
conduct	the investigation acceptable to the council.		228
(	E)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (E)(1)	of	229
this se	ction, the department shall charge the following		230
amuseme	nt ride fees:		231
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	1	2	
A	Permit, non-inflatable ride	\$225	
В	Permit, inflatable ride	\$100	
С	Annual inspection and reinspection per		
	ride:		
D	Kiddie rides	\$100	
E	Family rides	\$200	
F	Major rides	\$300	
G	Spectacular rides	\$400	
Н	Family/portable roller coasters	<u>\$1,200</u>	
I	Tower rides	\$1,800	
J	Roller coasterLarge roller coasters	\$1 <b>,</b> 200	
		\$4,000	

K	Aerial lifts or bungee jumping facilities	<del>\$450</del>	
L	Go karts, per kart	\$5	
М	Inflatable rides, three or fewer that are inspected at the same time at the same location and that are owned by the same owner	\$100 per inflatable ride	
N	Inflatable rides, four to ten that are inspected at the same time at the same location and that are owned by the same owner	\$75 per inflatable ride	
0	Inflatable rides, eleven or more that are inspected at the same time at the same location and that are owned by the same owner	\$50 per inflatable ride	
P	Other rides	<del>\$160</del>	
Q	Midseason operational inspection per ride	\$25	
R	Expedited inspection per ride	\$100	
S	Failure to cancel scheduled inspection per ride	\$100	
Т	Failure to have amusement ride ready for inspection per ride	\$100	
Т	he go kart inspection fee is in addition to the		233
inspect	cion fee for the go kart track.		234
Ŧ	he director shall adopt rules in accordance wit	h-Chapter-	235

119. of the Revised Code establishing an annual fee that is less
than one hundred five dollars for an inspection and reinspection
of an inflatable ride. In adopting the rules, the director shall
ensure that the fee reasonably reflects the costs of inspection-
and reinspection of an inflatable ride. If the director issues a
permit for an inflatable ride for a time period of less than one
year, the director shall charge a prorated fee for the permit
equal to one-twelfth of the annual permit fee multiplied by the-
number of full months for which the permit is issued.

The fees for an expedited inspection, failure to cancel a scheduled inspection, and failure to have an amusement ride ready for inspection do not apply to go karts.

As used in division (E)(1) of this section, "expedited inspection" means an inspection of an amusement ride by the department not later than ten days after the owner of the amusement ride files an application for a permit under this section.

- (2) All fees and fines collected by the department under this chapter shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the amusement ride inspection fund, which is hereby created, and shall be used only for the purpose of administering and enforcing section 1711.11 of the Revised Code and this chapter.
- (3) The owner of an amusement ride shall be required to pay a reinspection fee only if the reinspection is required by division (B)(2) of this section or rules adopted under that division, if the reinspection was conducted at the owner's request under division (F) of this section, if the reinspection is required by division (F) of this section because of an accident, or if the reinspection is required by division (F) of

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section 993.07 of the Revised Code. If a reinspection is	266
conducted at the request of the chief officer of a fair,	267
festival, or event where the ride is operating, the reinspection	268
fee shall be charged to the fair, festival, or event.	269

- (4) The rules adopted under division (B) of this section shall define "roller coaster," "aerial lifts," "inflatable ride," "go karts," and "other rides" "kiddie ride," "family ride," "major ride," "spectacular ride," "family/portable roller coaster," "tower ride," and "large roller coaster" for purposes of determining the fees under division (E) of this section. The rules shall define "other rides" to include go kart tracks.
- (F) A reinspection of an amusement ride shall take place 277 if an accident occurs, if the owner of the ride or the chief 278 officer of the fair, festival, or event where the ride is 279 operating requests a reinspection, if the chief inspector 280 determines reinspection is necessary in accordance with section 281 993.042 of the Revised Code, or if the reinspection is required 282 by division (F) of section 993.07 of the Revised Code. 283
- (G) As a supplement to its annual inspection of a 284 temporary amusement ride, the department may inspect the ride 285 during each scheduled event, as listed in the schedule of events 286 provided to the department by the owner pursuant to division (C) 287 of section 993.07 of the Revised Code, at which the ride is 288 operated in this state. These supplemental inspections are in 289 addition to any other inspection or reinspection of the ride as 290 may be required under this chapter or rules adopted under it, 291 and the owner of the temporary amusement ride is not required to 292 pay an inspection or reinspection fee for this supplemental 293 inspection unless the supplemental inspection is being conducted 294 pursuant to division (B)(2) of this section or rules adopted 295

Revised Code are hereby repealed.

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under that division. Nothing in this division shall be construed	296
to prohibit the owner of a temporary amusement ride having a	297
valid permit to operate in this state from operating the ride at	298
a scheduled event before the department conducts a supplemental	299
inspection.	300
(H) The department may annually conduct a midseason	301
operational inspection of every amusement ride upon which it	302
conducts an annual inspection pursuant to division (A) of this	303
section. The midseason operational inspection is in addition to	304
any other inspection or reinspection of the amusement ride as	305
may be required pursuant to this chapter. The owner of an	306
amusement ride shall submit to the department, at the time	307
determined by the department, the midseason operational	308
inspection fee specified in division (E) of this section. The	309
director, in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code,	310
shall adopt rules specifying the time period during which the	311
department will conduct midseason operational inspections.	312
Section 2. That existing sections 993.01 and 993.04 of the	313