As Introduced

136th General Assembly Regular Session

H. B. No. 554

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2025-2026 Representative Thomas, D.

Cosponsor: Representative Pizzulli

To enact sections 9.18, 1333.96, 1333.97, and

governmental entities and private sellers to

accept cash as payment in certain circumstances.

1333.98 of the Revised Code to require

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:	
Section 1. That sections 9.18, 1333.96, 1333.97, and	5
1333.98 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:	6
Sec. 9.18. (A) As used in this section:	7
(1) "Governmental entity" means the state or a political	8
subdivision, or any private person or business acting as an	9
agent of the state or a political subdivision, that accepts	10
payments from people at a physical location.	11
(2) "Political subdivision" has the same meaning as in	12
section 9.48 of the Revised Code.	13
(3) "State" has the same meaning as in section 2744.01 of	14
the Revised Code.	15
(B) For any debt, purchase, or transaction totaling five	16
hundred dollars or less, a governmental entity shall accept cash	17
when offered as payment.	18

(C) A governmental entity shall not charge a person making	19
a cash payment a higher price compared to the price charged to a	20
person not paying with cash.	21
Sec. 1333.96. (A) As used in this section, "at retail"	22
includes any retail transaction conducted in person and excludes	23
any telephone, mail, or internet-based transaction.	24
(B) A person selling or offering for sale goods or	25
services at retail shall comply with the following requirements:	26
(1) Accept cash when offered by a buyer as payment for any	27
debt, purchase, or transaction totaling five hundred dollars or	28
<pre>less;</pre>	29
(2) Provide at least one point-of-sale station, either	30
automated or operated by a person, that allows a buyer to pay	31
using cash as payment;	32
(3) Not charge a person making a cash payment a higher	33
price compared to the price charged to a person not paying with	34
cash.	35
Sec. 1333.97. The requirements stated in section 1333.96	36
of the Revised Code do not apply to a person selling goods or	37
services at an airport.	38
Sec. 1333.98. A violation of section 1333.96 of the	39
Revised Code is an unfair or deceptive act or practice in	40
violation of section 1345.02 of the Revised Code. A person	41
injured by a violation of section 1333.96 of the Revised Code	42
has a cause of action and is entitled to the same relief	43
available to a consumer under section 1345.09 of the Revised	44
Code. All powers and remedies available to the attorney general	45
to enforce sections 1345.01 to 1345.13 of the Revised Code are	46
available to the attorney general to enforce section 1333.96 of	47

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the Revised Code. 48