

**As Introduced**

**136th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2025-2026**

**H. B. No. 63**

**Representatives McNally, Abdullahi**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Brent, Baker, Brennan, Synenberg, Rader, Sigrist,  
Cockley**

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**A BILL**

To amend section 5501.03 of the Revised Code to 1  
require ODOT to install and maintain security 2  
camera systems at rest stops. 3

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

**Section 1.** That section 5501.03 of the Revised Code be 4  
amended to read as follows: 5

**Sec. 5501.03.** (A) The department of transportation shall: 6

(1) Exercise and perform such other duties, powers, and 7  
functions as are conferred by law on the director, the 8  
department, the assistant directors, the deputy directors, or on 9  
the divisions of the department; 10

(2) Coordinate and develop, in cooperation with local, 11  
regional, state, and federal planning agencies and authorities, 12  
comprehensive and balanced state policy and planning to meet 13  
present and future needs for adequate transportation facilities 14  
in this state, including recommendations for adequate funding of 15  
the implementation of such planning; 16

(3) Coordinate its activities with those of other 17  
appropriate state departments, public agencies, and authorities, 18  
and enter into any contracts with such departments, agencies, 19  
and authorities as may be necessary to carry out its duties, 20  
powers, and functions; 21

(4) Cooperate with and assist the public utilities 22  
commission in the commission's administration of sections 23  
4907.47 to 4907.476 of the Revised Code, particularly with 24  
respect to the federal highway administration; 25

(5) Cooperate with and assist the Ohio power siting board 26  
in the board's administration of Chapter 4906. of the Revised 27  
Code; 28

(6) Give particular consideration to the development of 29  
policy and planning for public transportation facilities, and to 30  
the coordination of associated activities relating thereto, as 31  
prescribed under divisions (A) (2) and (3) of this section; 32

(7) Conduct, in cooperation with the Ohio legislative 33  
service commission, any studies or comparisons of state traffic 34  
laws and local traffic ordinances with model laws and ordinances 35  
that may be required to meet program standards adopted by the 36  
United States department of transportation pursuant to the 37  
"Highway Safety Act of 1966," 80 Stat. 731, U.S.C.A. 401; 38

(8) Prepare, print, distribute, and advertise books, maps, 39  
pamphlets, and other information that, in the judgment of the 40  
director, will inform the public and other governmental 41  
departments, agencies, and authorities as to the duties, powers, 42  
and functions of the department; 43

(9) In its research and development program, consider 44  
technologies for improving safety, mobility, aviation and 45

aviation education, transportation facilities, roadways, 46  
including construction techniques and materials to prolong 47  
project life, being used or developed by other states that have 48  
geographic, geologic, or climatic features similar to this 49  
state's, and collaborate with those states in that development; 50

(10) Not later than June 30, 2031, install and maintain a 51  
system of security cameras at each rest area over which the 52  
department has jurisdiction. The director of transportation 53  
shall consult with the director of public safety and the 54  
attorney general in determining an appropriate schedule for the 55  
installation and maintenance of the security cameras. 56

(B) Nothing contained in this section shall be held to in 57  
any manner affect, limit, restrict, or otherwise interfere with 58  
the exercise of powers relating to transportation facilities by 59  
appropriate agencies of the federal government, or by counties, 60  
municipal corporations, or other political subdivisions or 61  
special districts in this state authorized by law to exercise 62  
such powers. 63

(C) The department may use all appropriate sources of 64  
revenue to assist in the development and implementation of rail 65  
service as defined by division (C) of section 4981.01 of the 66  
Revised Code. 67

(D) The director of transportation may enter into 68  
contracts with public agencies including political subdivisions, 69  
other state agencies, boards, commissions, regional transit 70  
authorities, county transit boards, and port authorities, to 71  
administer the design, qualification of bidders, competitive bid 72  
letting, construction inspection, research, and acceptance of 73  
any projects or transportation facilities administered by the 74  
department, provided the administration of such projects or 75

transportation facilities is performed in accordance with all 76  
applicable state and federal laws and regulations with oversight 77  
by the department. 78

(E) The director may enter into cooperative or contractual 79  
agreements with any individual, organization, or business 80  
related to the creation or promotion of a traveler information 81  
program. The traveler information program shall provide real- 82  
time traffic conditions and travel time information to travelers 83  
by telephone, text message, internet, or other similar means at 84  
no cost to the traveler. The director may contract with a 85  
program manager for the traveler information program. The 86  
program manager shall be responsible for all costs associated 87  
with the development and operation of the traveler information 88  
program. The compensation due to a program manager or vendor 89  
under any of these agreements may include deferred compensation 90  
in an amount determined by the director. Excess revenue shall be 91  
remitted to the department for deposit into the highway 92  
operating fund. 93

(F) Any materials or data submitted to, made available to, 94  
or received by the director of transportation, to the extent 95  
that the materials or data consist of trade secrets, as defined 96  
in section 1333.61 of the Revised Code, or commercial or 97  
financial information, are confidential and are not public 98  
records for the purposes of section 149.43 of the Revised Code. 99

**Section 2.** That existing section 5501.03 of the Revised 100  
Code is hereby repealed. 101