

**As Reported by the House Public Safety Committee**

**136th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2025-2026**

**Sub. H. B. No. 630**

**Representative Dean**

**Cosponsor: Representative Willis**

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To amend sections 4511.051 and 4513.34 and to enact  
section 4513.341 of the Revised Code regarding  
police escorts for farm equipment and vehicles  
that haul agricultural equipment and produce and  
the operation of farm equipment and machinery on  
limited access highways and freeways.

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

**Section 1.** That sections 4511.051 and 4513.34 be amended  
and section 4513.341 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as  
follows:

**Sec. 4511.051.** (A) No person, unless otherwise directed by  
a police officer, shall:

(1) As a pedestrian, occupy any space within the limits of  
the right-of-way of a freeway, except: in a rest area; on a  
facility that is separated from the roadway and shoulders of the  
freeway and is designed and appropriately marked for pedestrian  
use; in the performance of public works or official duties; as a  
result of an emergency caused by an accident or breakdown of a  
motor vehicle; or to obtain assistance;

(2) Occupy any space within the limits of the right-of-way

of a freeway, with: an animal-drawn vehicle; a ridden or led 20  
animal; herded animals; a pushcart; a bicycle, except on a 21  
facility that is separated from the roadway and shoulders of the 22  
freeway and is designed and appropriately marked for bicycle 23  
use; an electric bicycle; a bicycle with motor attached; a motor 24  
driven cycle with a motor which produces not to exceed five 25  
brake horsepower; ~~an agricultural tractor; farm machinery;~~ 26  
except in the performance of public works or official duties; 27

(3) Occupy any space within the limits of the right-of-way 28  
of a freeway with an agricultural tractor or farm machinery 29  
unless that person is issued a permit in accordance with section 30  
4513.341 of the Revised Code. 31

(B) Except as otherwise provided in this division, whoever 32  
violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, 33  
within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been 34  
convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or 35  
traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a 36  
misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the 37  
offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or 38  
more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever 39  
violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third 40  
degree. 41

If the offender commits the offense while distracted and 42  
the distracting activity is a contributing factor to the 43  
commission of the offense, the offender is subject to the 44  
additional fine established under section 4511.991 of the 45  
Revised Code. 46

**Sec. 4513.34.** (A) (1) The director of transportation with 47  
respect to all highways that are a part of the state highway 48  
system and local authorities with respect to highways under 49

their jurisdiction, upon application in writing, shall issue a special regional heavy hauling permit authorizing the applicant to operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles as follows:

(a) At a size or weight of vehicle or load exceeding the maximum specified in sections 5577.01 to 5577.09 of the Revised Code, or otherwise not in conformity with sections 4513.01 to 4513.37 of the Revised Code;

(b) Upon any highway under the jurisdiction of the authority granting the permit except those highways with a condition insufficient to bear the weight of the vehicle or combination of vehicles as stated in the application.

Issuance of a special regional heavy hauling permit is subject to the payment of a fee established by the director or local authority in accordance with this section.

(2) In circumstances where a person is not eligible to receive a permit under division (A) (1) of this section, the director of transportation with respect to all highways that are a part of the state highway system and local authorities with respect to highways under their jurisdiction, upon application in writing and for good cause shown, may issue a special permit in writing authorizing the applicant to operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles of a size or weight of vehicle or load exceeding the maximum specified in sections 5577.01 to 5577.09 of the Revised Code, or otherwise not in conformity with sections 4513.01 to 4513.37 of the Revised Code, upon any highway under the jurisdiction of the authority granting the permit.

(3) For purposes of this section, the director may

designate certain state highways or portions of state highways 79  
as special economic development highways. If an application 80  
submitted to the director under this section involves travel of 81  
a nonconforming vehicle or combination of vehicles upon a 82  
special economic development highway, the director, in 83  
determining whether good cause has been shown that issuance of a 84  
permit is justified, shall consider the effect the travel of the 85  
vehicle or combination of vehicles will have on the economic 86  
development in the area in which the designated highway or 87  
portion of highway is located. 88

(B) (1) Notwithstanding sections 715.22 and 723.01 of the 89  
Revised Code, the holder of a permit issued by the director 90  
under this section may move the vehicle or combination of 91  
vehicles described in the permit on any highway that is a part 92  
of the state highway system when the movement is partly within 93  
and partly without the corporate limits of a municipal 94  
corporation. No local authority shall require any other permit 95  
or license or charge any license fee or other charge against the 96  
holder of a permit for the movement of a vehicle or combination 97  
of vehicles on any highway that is a part of the state highway 98  
system. The director shall not require the holder of a permit 99  
issued by a local authority to obtain a special permit for the 100  
movement of vehicles or combination of vehicles on highways 101  
within the jurisdiction of the local authority. 102

(2) Except as provided in division (B) (3) of this section, 103  
permits may be issued for any period of time not to exceed one 104  
year, as the director in the director's discretion or a local 105  
authority in its discretion determines advisable, or for the 106  
duration of any public construction project. 107

(3) The director and every county shall issue an annual 108

permit under division (A) (2) of this section for:	109
(a) A vehicle or combination of vehicles that haul farm	110
machinery, provided that the farm machinery otherwise qualifies	111
for the farm equipment permit or a similar permit offered by the	112
county for farm machinery or equipment;	113
(b) A vehicle or combination of vehicles that haul	114
agricultural produce or agricultural production materials that	115
otherwise could be hauled by farm machinery or equipment under	116
the farm equipment permit or a similar permit offered by the	117
county for farm machinery or equipment.	118
(4) In addition to the annual permit issued under <u>division</u>	119
(B) (3) of this section, the director and every county may	120
continue to issue a permit under division (A) (2) of this section	121
for the vehicles specified in division (B) (3) of this section,	122
for any period of time up to one year.	123
<u>(5) If the director issues a permit with respect to farm</u>	124
<u>machinery or farm equipment, the director shall not require a</u>	125
<u>law enforcement escort if both of the following conditions are</u>	126
<u>met:</u>	127
<u>(a) The permit holder operates the farm machinery or farm</u>	128
<u>equipment on a state route other than an interstate highway;</u>	129
<u>(b) The permit holder moves the farm machinery or farm</u>	130
<u>equipment a distance that is less than ten miles.</u>	131
(C) (1) The application for a permit issued under this	132
section shall be in the form that the director or local	133
authority prescribes. The director or local authority may	134
prescribe a permit fee to be imposed and collected when any	135
permit described in this section is issued. The permit fee may	136
be in an amount sufficient to reimburse the director or local	137

authority for the administrative costs incurred in issuing the permit, and also to cover the cost of the normal and expected damage caused to the roadway or a street or highway structure as the result of the operation of the nonconforming vehicle or combination of vehicles. The director, in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, shall establish a schedule of fees for permits issued by the director under this section; however, the fee to operate a triple trailer unit, at locations authorized under federal law, shall be one hundred dollars.

(2) For the purposes of this section and of rules adopted by the director under this section, milk transported in bulk by vehicle is deemed a nondivisible load.

(3) For purposes of this section and of rules adopted by the director under this section, three or fewer aluminum coils, transported by a vehicle, are deemed a nondivisible load. The director shall adopt rules establishing requirements for an aluminum coil permit that are substantially similar to the requirements for a steel coil permit under Chapter 5501:2-1 of the Administrative Code.

(D) The director or a local authority shall issue a special regional heavy hauling permit under division (A) (1) of this section upon application and payment of the applicable fee. Except when required to issue a special permit under division (B) (3) of this section, the director or local authority may issue or withhold a special permit specified in division (A) (2) of this section. If a permit is to be issued, the director or local authority may limit or prescribe conditions of operation for the vehicle and may require the posting of a bond or other security conditioned upon the sufficiency of the permit fee to compensate for damage caused to the roadway or a street or

highway structure. In addition, a local authority, as a 168  
condition of issuance of an overweight permit, may require the 169  
applicant to develop and enter into a mutual agreement with the 170  
local authority to compensate for or to repair excess damage 171  
caused to the roadway by travel under the permit. 172

For a permit that will allow travel of a nonconforming 173  
vehicle or combination of vehicles on a special economic 174  
development highway, the director, as a condition of issuance, 175  
may require the applicant to agree to make periodic payments to 176  
the department to compensate for damage caused to the roadway by 177  
travel under the permit. 178

(E) Every permit issued under this section shall be 179  
carried in the vehicle or combination of vehicles to which it 180  
refers and shall be open to inspection by any police officer or 181  
authorized agent of any authority granting the permit. No person 182  
shall violate any of the terms of a permit. 183

(F) The director may debar an applicant from applying for 184  
a permit under this section upon a finding based on a reasonable 185  
belief that the applicant has done any of the following: 186

(1) Abused the process by repeatedly submitting false 187  
information or false travel plans or by using another company or 188  
individual's name, insurance, or escrow account without proper 189  
authorization; 190

(2) Failed to comply with or substantially perform under a 191  
previously issued permit according to its terms, conditions, and 192  
specifications within specified time limits; 193

(3) Failed to cooperate in the application process for the 194  
permit or in any other procedures that are related to the 195  
issuance of the permit by refusing to provide information or 196

documents required in a permit or by failing to respond to and	197
correct matters related to the permit;	198
(4) Accumulated repeated justified complaints regarding	199
performance under a permit that was previously issued to the	200
applicant or previously failed to obtain a permit when such a	201
permit was required;	202
(5) Attempted to influence a public employee to breach	203
ethical conduct standards;	204
(6) Been convicted of a disqualifying offense as	205
determined under section 9.79 of the Revised Code;	206
(7) Accumulated repeated convictions under a state or	207
federal safety law governing commercial motor vehicles or a rule	208
or regulation adopted under such a law;	209
(8) Accumulated repeated convictions under a law, rule, or	210
regulation governing the movement of traffic over the public	211
streets and highways;	212
(9) Failed to pay any fees associated with any permitted	213
operation or move;	214
(10) Deliberately or willfully submitted false or	215
misleading information in connection with the application for,	216
or performance under, a permit issued under this section.	217
If the applicant is a partnership, association, or	218
corporation, the director also may debar from consideration for	219
permits any partner of the partnership, or the officers,	220
directors, or employees of the association or corporation being	221
debarred.	222
The director may adopt rules in accordance with Chapter	223
119. of the Revised Code governing the debarment of an	224

applicant.	225
(G) When the director reasonably believes that grounds for	226
debarment exist, the director shall send the person that is	227
subject to debarment a notice of the proposed debarment. A	228
notice of proposed debarment shall indicate the grounds for the	229
debarment of the person and the procedure for requesting a	230
hearing. The notice and hearing shall be in accordance with	231
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code. If the person does not respond	232
with a request for a hearing in the manner specified in that	233
chapter, the director shall issue the debarment decision without	234
a hearing and shall notify the person of the decision by	235
certified mail, return receipt requested. The debarment period	236
may be of any length determined by the director, and the	237
director may modify or rescind the debarment at any time. During	238
the period of debarment, the director shall not issue, or	239
consider issuing, a permit under this section to any	240
partnership, association, or corporation that is affiliated with	241
a debarred person. After the debarment period expires, the	242
person, and any partnership, association, or corporation	243
affiliated with the person, may reapply for a permit.	244
(H) (1) No person shall violate the terms of a permit	245
issued under this section that relate to gross load limits.	246
(2) No person shall violate the terms of a permit issued	247
under this section that relate to axle load by more than two	248
thousand pounds per axle or group of axles.	249
(3) No person shall violate the terms of a permit issued	250
under this section that relate to an approved route except upon	251
order of a law enforcement officer or authorized agent of the	252
issuing authority.	253

(I) Whoever violates division (H) of this section shall be 254  
punished as provided in section 4513.99 of the Revised Code. 255

(J) A permit issued by the department of transportation or 256  
a local authority under this section for the operation of a 257  
vehicle or combination of vehicles is valid for the purposes of 258  
the vehicle operation in accordance with the conditions and 259  
limitations specified on the permit. Such a permit is voidable 260  
by law enforcement only for operation of a vehicle or 261  
combination of vehicles in violation of the weight, dimension, 262  
or route provisions of the permit. However, a permit is not 263  
voidable for operation in violation of a route provision of a 264  
permit if the operation is upon the order of a law enforcement 265  
officer. 266

Sec. 4513.341. (A) In addition to the permits issued in 267  
accordance with section 4513.34 of the Revised Code, the 268  
director of transportation, upon application in writing and 269  
payment of the permit fee, shall issue an annual permit 270  
authorizing an applicant to operate or move farm machinery or 271  
farm equipment on any limited access highway or freeway under 272  
the jurisdiction of the department of transportation, other than 273  
an interstate highway. 274

(B) The director shall prescribe both of the following: 275

(1) The form and manner of the application for a permit 276  
issued under this section; 277

(2) A permit fee to be imposed and collected when a permit 278  
is issued under this section. The permit fee shall not exceed 279  
one hundred dollars. 280

(C) The director, in consultation with the superintendent 281  
of the state highway patrol, may limit or prescribe conditions 282

of operation, including route restrictions, for the farm 283  
machinery or farm equipment on the limited access highway or 284  
freeway. 285

(D) No person shall knowingly violate the terms of a 286  
permit issued under this section, including any limitations, 287  
conditions, or route restrictions specified on the permit, 288  
except upon order of a law enforcement officer or an authorized 289  
agent of the department. 290

(E) A permit holder shall ensure that a permit issued 291  
under this section is carried in the farm machinery or farm 292  
equipment to which it refers and that it is open to inspection 293  
by any law enforcement officer or authorized agent of the 294  
department. 295

(F) A local authority may issue a permit authorizing a 296  
person to operate or move farm machinery or farm equipment on a 297  
limited access highway or freeway under its jurisdiction, other 298  
than an interstate highway. The local authority may establish 299  
any fees, limitations, conditions, or route restrictions it 300  
considers necessary for such a permit. 301

**Section 2.** That existing sections 4511.051 and 4513.34 of 302  
the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 303

**Section 3.** Section 4511.051 of the Revised Code is 304  
presented in this act as a composite of the section as amended 305  
by both H.B. 95 and H.B. 250 of the 132nd General Assembly. The 306  
General Assembly, applying the principle stated in division (B) 307  
of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that amendments are to be 308  
harmonized if reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, 309  
finds that the composite is the resulting version of the section 310  
in effect prior to the effective date of the section as 311

presented in this act.

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