



www.lsc.ohio.gov

OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

H.B. 653
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Brewer

Larry Gunter, Jr., Research Analyst

SUMMARY

- Establishes a \$20 maximum late fee for the failure to pay a civil parking ticket fine charged by a local authority.
- Imposes a timeline by which a local authority may charge one or more civil parking ticket late fees as follows:
 - The first late fee is not charged prior to 30 days after the parking ticket was issued and is not more than \$10; and
 - Any second late fee is not charged prior to 60 days after the parking ticket was issued and is not more than an additional \$10.
- If a local authority charges an administrative, processing, or collection fee in association with a civil parking ticket fine, limits such fee to either the actual cost of collection or 25% of the original fine, whichever amount is less.
- Prohibits a local authority from imposing additional penalties, surcharges, or fee multipliers.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Civil parking ticket late fees

The bill establishes a \$20 maximum late fee for the failure to pay a civil parking ticket fine charged by a local authority (e.g., a county, municipal corporation, township, or similar governing body). Currently, a local authority may enact an ordinance or adopt a resolution or regulation creating a civil parking ticket program, rather than enforcing parking violations through criminal penalties.¹ In establishing the program, the local authority also must establish set fines and any

¹ R.C. 4521.02(A)(1).

additional penalties, including late fees. For standard parking violations, the fine cannot exceed any corresponding criminal parking fines or exceed \$100, plus costs and other administrative charges. For accessible parking violations, the fine must be between \$250 and \$500.²

Accordingly, if a local authority adopts a civil parking ticket program that includes charging a late fee for a parking infraction, in addition to the bill's \$20 maximum fine requirement, the bill also imposes a timeline by which a local authority may charge one or more late fees as follows:

1. For the first late fee, the amount cannot be more than \$10 and cannot be charged prior to 30 days after the parking ticket was issued; and
2. For a second late fee, the amount cannot be more than an additional \$10 and cannot be charged prior to 60 days after the parking ticket was issued.³

However, in no case can a local authority's ordinance, resolution, or regulation require a person who is issued a parking ticket to answer the ticket in less than 30 days.⁴

Additional fee restrictions

The bill also prohibits a local authority from imposing additional penalties, surcharges, or fee multipliers. Additionally, if a local authority imposes an administrative, processing, or collection fee when charging a civil parking fine, the bill caps such fee at an amount that is the lesser of either:

1. The actual cost of collection; or
2. 25% of the original fine.

For example, if a person was issued a \$20 parking ticket and the local authority's actual cost of collection is \$4, then the local authority may only charge a person \$4. This is because the actual cost of collection is less than 25% of the original fine (which is \$5). However, if the actual cost of collecting a \$20 parking ticket is \$8, the local authority may only charge a person \$5 (25% of the original fine).⁵

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	01-27-26

ANHB0653IN-136/ar

² R.C. 4521.02(A)(2) and (3).

³ R.C. 4521.02(A).

⁴ R.C. 4521.02(C).

⁵ R.C. 4521.02(D).