

**As Introduced**

**136th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2025-2026**

**H. B. No. 653**

**Representative Brewer**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Fischer, Brennan, Troy, Synenberg, Russo,  
Brownlee**

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To amend section 4521.02 of the Revised Code to  
establish maximum late fees for civil parking  
tickets.

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

**Section 1.** That section 4521.02 of the Revised Code be  
amended to read as follows:

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**Sec. 4521.02.** ~~(A)~~ (A) (1) A local authority that enacts any  
ordinance, resolution, or regulation that regulates the standing  
or parking of vehicles and that is authorized pursuant to  
section 505.17 or 4511.07 of the Revised Code also by ordinance,  
resolution, or regulation may specify that a violation of the  
regulatory ordinance, resolution, or regulation shall not be  
considered a criminal offense for any purpose, that a person who  
commits the violation shall not be arrested as a result of the  
commission of the violation, and that the violation shall be  
handled pursuant to this chapter. If such a specification is  
made, the local authority also by ordinance, resolution, or  
regulation shall adopt a fine for a violation of the regulatory  
ordinance, resolution, or regulation and prescribe an additional  
penalty or penalties for failure to answer any charges of the

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violation in a timely manner. ~~In~~ 20

(2) In no case shall any fine adopted or additional 21  
penalty prescribed pursuant to ~~this~~ division (A) of this section 22  
exceed the fine established by the municipal or county court 23  
having territorial jurisdiction over the entire or a majority of 24  
the political subdivision of the local authority, in its 25  
schedule of fines established pursuant to Traffic Rule 13(C), 26  
for a substantively comparable violation. Except as otherwise 27  
provided in ~~this~~ division (A) of this section, in no case shall 28  
any fine adopted or additional penalty prescribed pursuant to 29  
~~this~~ division (A) of this section exceed one hundred dollars, 30  
plus costs and other administrative charges, per violation. 31

(3) If a local authority chooses to adopt a specific fine 32  
for a violation of an ordinance, resolution, or regulation that 33  
regulates the standing or parking of a vehicle in an accessible 34  
parking space, the fine the local authority establishes for such 35  
offense shall be an amount not less than two hundred fifty 36  
dollars but not more than five hundred dollars. 37

(4) Except as otherwise provided in this division, a local 38  
authority shall impose late-payment penalties in the following 39  
manner: 40

(a) An original late-payment penalty of not more than ten 41  
dollars, which shall not be imposed earlier than thirty days 42  
after the issuance of the parking ticket; 43

(b) A secondary late-payment penalty of not more than ten 44  
dollars, which shall not be imposed earlier than sixty days 45  
after the issuance of the parking ticket if the parking ticket 46  
remains unpaid at that time. 47

Any late-payment penalties shall not exceed twenty dollars 48

for a single parking infraction.

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(B) A local authority that enacts an ordinance,  
resolution, or regulation pursuant to division (A) of this  
section also may enact an ordinance, resolution, or regulation  
that provides for the impoundment or immobilization of vehicles  
found standing or parked in violation of the regulatory  
ordinance, resolution, or regulation and the release of the  
vehicles to their owners. In no case shall an ordinance,  
resolution, or regulation require the owner of the vehicle to  
post bond or deposit cash in excess of one thousand dollars in  
order to obtain release of the vehicle.

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(C) A local authority that enacts any ordinance,  
resolution, or regulation pursuant to division (A) of this  
section also shall enact an ordinance, resolution, or regulation  
that specifies the time within which a person who is issued a  
parking ticket must answer in relation to the parking infraction  
charged in the ticket. In no case shall an ordinance,  
resolution, or regulation specify a time that is less than  
thirty days from the date of issuance within which a person who  
is issued a parking ticket must answer in relation to the  
parking infraction without incurring any late-payment penalties.

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(D) A local authority that enacts any ordinance,  
resolution, or regulation pursuant to division (A) of this  
section shall not impose any administrative, processing, or  
collection fee that exceeds the lesser of the actual cost of  
collection or twenty-five per cent of the original fine. No  
additional penalties, surcharges, or fee multipliers shall be  
imposed beyond what is expressly provided for in this section.

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**Section 2.** That existing section 4521.02 of the Revised  
Code is hereby repealed.

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| <b>Section 3.</b> Sections 1 and 2 of this act take effect one | 79 |
| hundred eighty days after the effective date of this section.  | 80 |