

As Introduced

136th General Assembly

Regular Session

2025-2026

H. B. No. 678

Representatives Abrams, Daniels

**Cosponsors: Representatives Lorenz, Willis, John, Miller, K., Ghanbari, Plummer,
White, A., Hall, T., Kishman, Bird, Ray, Johnson, Robb Blasdel, Schmidt, Moore,
LaRe**

To amend sections 4503.10, 4503.102, 4503.20,	1
4507.212, 4509.101, 4509.66, 4509.67, 4509.69,	2
and 4509.77 and to enact sections 4503.48,	3
4509.43, 4509.431, 4509.432, 4509.433, and	4
4509.434 of the Revised Code to implement an	5
online financial responsibility verification	6
system and to modify the financial	7
responsibility laws.	8

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

Section 1. That sections 4503.10, 4503.102, 4503.20,	9
4507.212, 4509.101, 4509.66, 4509.67, 4509.69, and 4509.77 be	10
amended and sections 4503.48, 4509.43, 4509.431, 4509.432,	11
4509.433, and 4509.434 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as	12
follows:	13

Sec. 4503.10. (A) The owner of every snowmobile, off-	14
highway motorcycle, and all-purpose vehicle required to be	15
registered under section 4519.02 of the Revised Code shall file	16
an application for registration under section 4519.03 of the	17
Revised Code. The owner of a motor vehicle, other than a	18

snowmobile, off-highway motorcycle, or all-purpose vehicle, that 19
is not designed and constructed by the manufacturer for 20
operation on a street or highway may not register it under this 21
chapter except upon certification of inspection pursuant to 22
section 4513.02 of the Revised Code by the sheriff, or the chief 23
of police of the municipal corporation or township, with 24
jurisdiction over the political subdivision in which the owner 25
of the motor vehicle resides. Except as provided in sections 26
4503.103 and 4503.107 of the Revised Code, every owner of every 27
other motor vehicle not previously described in this section and 28
every person mentioned as owner in the last certificate of title 29
of a motor vehicle that is operated or driven upon the public 30
roads or highways shall cause to be filed each year, by mail or 31
otherwise, in the office of the registrar of motor vehicles or a 32
deputy registrar, a written or electronic application or a 33
preprinted registration renewal notice issued under section 34
4503.102 of the Revised Code, the form of which shall be 35
prescribed by the registrar, for registration for the following 36
registration year, which shall begin on the first day of January 37
of every calendar year and end on the thirty-first day of 38
December in the same year. Applications for registration and 39
registration renewal notices shall be filed at the times 40
established by the registrar pursuant to section 4503.101 of the 41
Revised Code. A motor vehicle owner also may elect to apply for 42
or renew a motor vehicle registration by electronic means using 43
electronic signature in accordance with rules adopted by the 44
registrar. Except as provided in division (J) of this section, 45
applications for registration shall be made on blanks furnished 46
by the registrar for that purpose, containing the following 47
information: 48

(1) A brief description of the motor vehicle to be 49

registered, including the year, make, model, and vehicle 50
identification number, and, in the case of commercial cars, the 51
gross weight of the vehicle fully equipped computed in the 52
manner prescribed in section 4503.08 of the Revised Code; 53

(2) The name and residence address of the owner, and the 54
township and municipal corporation in which the owner resides; 55

(3) The district of registration, which shall be 56
determined as follows: 57

(a) In case the motor vehicle to be registered is used for 58
hire or principally in connection with any established business 59
or branch business, conducted at a particular place, the 60
district of registration is the municipal corporation in which 61
that place is located or, if not located in any municipal 62
corporation, the county and township in which that place is 63
located. 64

(b) In case the vehicle is not so used, the district of 65
registration is the municipal corporation or county in which the 66
owner resides at the time of making the application. 67

(4) Whether the motor vehicle is a new or used motor 68
vehicle; 69

(5) The date of purchase of the motor vehicle; 70

(6) Whether the fees required to be paid for the 71
registration or transfer of the motor vehicle, during the 72
preceding registration year and during the preceding period of 73
the current registration year, have been paid. Each application 74
for registration shall be signed by the owner, either manually 75
or by electronic signature, or pursuant to obtaining a limited 76
power of attorney authorized by the registrar for registration, 77
or other document authorizing such signature. If the owner 78

elects to apply for or renew the motor vehicle registration with 79
the registrar by electronic means, the owner's manual signature 80
is not required. 81

(7) The owner's social security number, driver's license 82
number, or state identification number, or, where a motor 83
vehicle to be registered is used for hire or principally in 84
connection with any established business, the owner's federal 85
taxpayer identification number. The bureau of motor vehicles 86
shall retain in its records all social security numbers provided 87
under this section, but the bureau shall not place social 88
security numbers on motor vehicle certificates of registration. 89

(8) Whether the applicant wishes to certify willingness to 90
make an anatomical gift if an applicant has not so certified 91
under section 2108.05 of the Revised Code. The applicant's 92
response shall not be considered in the decision of whether to 93
approve the application for registration. 94

(B) (1) When an applicant first registers a motor vehicle 95
in the applicant's name, the applicant shall provide proof of 96
ownership of that motor vehicle. Proof of ownership may include 97
any of the following: 98

(a) The applicant may present for inspection a physical 99
certificate of title or memorandum certificate showing title to 100
the motor vehicle to be registered in the name of the applicant. 101

(b) The applicant may present for inspection an electronic 102
certificate of title for the applicant's motor vehicle in a 103
manner prescribed by rules adopted by the registrar. 104

(c) The registrar or deputy registrar may electronically 105
confirm the applicant's ownership of the motor vehicle. 106

An applicant is not required to present a certificate of 107

title to an electronic motor vehicle dealer acting as a limited 108
authority deputy registrar in accordance with rules adopted by 109
the registrar. 110

(2) When a motor vehicle inspection and maintenance 111
program is in effect under section 3704.14 of the Revised Code 112
and rules adopted under it, each application for registration 113
for a vehicle required to be inspected under that section and 114
those rules shall be accompanied by an inspection certificate or 115
alternative emissions certificate for the motor vehicle issued 116
in accordance with that section. 117

(3) An application for registration shall be refused if 118
any of the following applies: 119

(a) The application is not in proper form. 120

(b) The application is prohibited from being accepted by 121
division (D) of section 2935.27, division (A) of section 122
4503.13, division (B) of section 4510.22, division (D) of 123
section 4503.234, division (B)(1) of section 4521.10, or 124
division (B) of section 5537.041 of the Revised Code. 125

(c) Proof of ownership is required but is not presented or 126
confirmed in accordance with division (B)(1) of this section. 127

(d) All registration and transfer fees for the motor 128
vehicle, for the preceding year or the preceding period of the 129
current registration year, have not been paid. 130

(e) The owner or lessee does not have an inspection 131
certificate or alternative emissions certificate for the motor 132
vehicle as provided in section 3704.14 of the Revised Code, and 133
rules adopted under it, if that section is applicable. 134

(f) The owner or lessee does not have proof of financial 135

responsibility with respect to the motor vehicle being 136
registered. 137

(4) This section does not require the payment of license 138
or registration taxes on a motor vehicle for any preceding year, 139
or for any preceding period of a year, if the motor vehicle was 140
not taxable for that preceding year or period under sections 141
4503.02, 4503.04, 4503.11, 4503.12, and 4503.16 or Chapter 4504. 142
of the Revised Code. 143

(5) When a certificate of registration is issued upon the 144
first registration of a motor vehicle by or on behalf of the 145
owner, the official issuing the certificate shall indicate the 146
issuance with a stamp on the certificate of title or memorandum 147
certificate or, in the case of an electronic certificate of 148
title or electronic verification of ownership, an electronic 149
stamp or other notation as specified in rules adopted by the 150
registrar, and with a stamp on the inspection certificate for 151
the motor vehicle, if any. 152

(6) The official also shall indicate, by a stamp or by 153
other means the registrar prescribes, on the registration 154
certificate issued upon the first registration of a motor 155
vehicle by or on behalf of the owner the odometer reading of the 156
motor vehicle as shown in the odometer statement included in or 157
attached to the certificate of title. Upon each subsequent 158
registration of the motor vehicle by or on behalf of the same 159
owner, the official also shall so indicate the odometer reading 160
of the motor vehicle as shown on the immediately preceding 161
certificate of registration. 162

(7) The registrar shall include in the permanent 163
registration record of any vehicle required to be inspected 164
under section 3704.14 of the Revised Code the inspection 165

certificate number from the inspection certificate or the 166
alternative emissions certificate number from the alternative 167
emissions certificate that is presented at the time of 168
registration of the vehicle as required under this division. 169

(8) When an applicant submits an application for 170
registration or registration renewal to the registrar or a 171
deputy registrar, the registrar or deputy registrar shall 172
inquire via the online financial responsibility verification 173
system established under sections 4509.43 to 4509.434 of the 174
Revised Code whether the applicant is maintaining proof of 175
financial responsibility. 176

If the results of the inquiry indicate no proof of the 177
maintenance of financial responsibility, are inconclusive, or 178
the applicant is submitting the application by mail or 179
electronic means in accordance with section 4503.102 of the 180
Revised Code, the registrar or deputy registrar shall request 181
the owner of the motor vehicle to demonstrate proof of financial 182
responsibility in the manner described in division (G) of 183
section 4509.101 of the Revised Code. 184

(C) (1) The registrar and each deputy registrar shall 185
collect the following additional fees for each application for 186
registration and registration renewal received: 187

(a) Except as provided in division (C) (1) (b) of this 188
section, a fee of eleven dollars on or before December 31, 2025, 189
and a fee of sixteen dollars on and after January 1, 2026; 190

(b) For vehicles specified in divisions (A) (1) to (21) of 191
section 4503.042 of the Revised Code, a fee of thirty dollars on 192
or before December 31, 2025, and a fee of thirty-five dollars on 193
and after January 1, 2026. 194

No additional fee shall be charged for vehicles registered 195
under section 4503.65 of the Revised Code. Each additional fee 196
is for the purpose of defraying the department of public 197
safety's costs associated with the administration and 198
enforcement of the motor vehicle and traffic laws of Ohio. Each 199
deputy registrar shall transmit the fees collected under 200
divisions (C)(1) and (3) of this section in the time and manner 201
provided in this section. The registrar shall deposit all moneys 202
received under division (C)(1) of this section into the public 203
safety - highway purposes fund established in section 4501.06 of 204
the Revised Code. 205

(2) In addition, a charge of twenty-five cents shall be 206
made for each reflectorized safety license plate issued, and a 207
single charge of twenty-five cents shall be made for each county 208
identification sticker or each set of county identification 209
stickers issued, as the case may be, to cover the cost of 210
producing the license plates and stickers, including material, 211
manufacturing, and administrative costs. Those fees shall be in 212
addition to the license tax. If the total cost of producing the 213
plates is less than twenty-five cents per plate, or if the total 214
cost of producing the stickers is less than twenty-five cents 215
per sticker or per set issued, any excess moneys accruing from 216
the fees shall be distributed in the same manner as provided by 217
section 4501.04 of the Revised Code for the distribution of 218
license tax moneys. If the total cost of producing the plates 219
exceeds twenty-five cents per plate, or if the total cost of 220
producing the stickers exceeds twenty-five cents per sticker or 221
per set issued, the difference shall be paid from the license 222
tax moneys collected pursuant to section 4503.02 of the Revised 223
Code. 224

(3) The registrar and each deputy registrar shall collect 225

the following additional fee, as applicable, for each 226
application for registration or registration renewal received 227
for any hybrid motor vehicle, plug-in hybrid electric motor 228
vehicle, or battery electric motor vehicle: 229

(a) One hundred dollars for a hybrid motor vehicle; 230

(b) One hundred fifty dollars for a plug-in hybrid 231
electric motor vehicle; 232

(c) Two hundred dollars for a battery electric motor 233
vehicle. 234

Each fee imposed under this division shall be prorated 235
based on the number of months for which the vehicle is 236
registered. The registrar shall transmit all money arising from 237
each fee to the treasurer of state for distribution in 238
accordance with division (E) of section 5735.051 of the Revised 239
Code, subject to division (D) of section 5735.05 of the Revised 240
Code. 241

(D) Each deputy registrar shall be allowed a fee equal to 242
the amount established under section 4503.038 of the Revised 243
Code for each application for registration and registration 244
renewal notice the deputy registrar receives, which shall be for 245
the purpose of compensating the deputy registrar for the deputy 246
registrar's services, and such office and rental expenses, as 247
may be necessary for the proper discharge of the deputy 248
registrar's duties in the receiving of applications and renewal 249
notices and the issuing of registrations. 250

(E) Upon the certification of the registrar, the county 251
sheriff or local police officials shall recover license plates 252
erroneously or fraudulently issued. 253

(F) Each deputy registrar, upon receipt of any application 254

for registration or registration renewal notice, together with 255
the license fee and any local motor vehicle license tax levied 256
pursuant to Chapter 4504. of the Revised Code, shall transmit 257
that fee and tax, if any, in the manner provided in this 258
section, together with the original and duplicate copy of the 259
application, to the registrar. The registrar, subject to the 260
approval of the director of public safety, may deposit the funds 261
collected by those deputies in a local bank or depository to the 262
credit of the "state of Ohio, bureau of motor vehicles." Where a 263
local bank or depository has been designated by the registrar, 264
each deputy registrar shall deposit all moneys collected by the 265
deputy registrar into that bank or depository not more than one 266
business day after their collection and shall make reports to 267
the registrar of the amounts so deposited, together with any 268
other information, some of which may be prescribed by the 269
treasurer of state, as the registrar may require and as 270
prescribed by the registrar by rule. The registrar, within three 271
days after receipt of notification of the deposit of funds by a 272
deputy registrar in a local bank or depository, shall draw on 273
that account in favor of the treasurer of state. The registrar, 274
subject to the approval of the director and the treasurer of 275
state, may make reasonable rules necessary for the prompt 276
transmittal of fees and for safeguarding the interests of the 277
state and of counties, townships, municipal corporations, and 278
transportation improvement districts levying local motor vehicle 279
license taxes. The registrar may pay service charges usually 280
collected by banks and depositories for such service. If deputy 281
registrars are located in communities where banking facilities 282
are not available, they shall transmit the fees forthwith, by 283
money order or otherwise, as the registrar, by rule approved by 284
the director and the treasurer of state, may prescribe. The 285
registrar may pay the usual and customary fees for such service. 286

(G) This section does not prevent any person from making 287
an application for a motor vehicle license directly to the 288
registrar by mail, by electronic means, or in person at any of 289
the registrar's offices, upon payment of a service fee equal to 290
the amount established under section 4503.038 of the Revised 291
Code for each application. 292

(H) No person shall make a false statement as to the 293
district of registration in an application required by division 294
(A) of this section. Violation of this division is falsification 295
under section 2921.13 of the Revised Code and punishable as 296
specified in that section. 297

(I) (1) Where applicable, the requirements of division (B) 298
of this section relating to the presentation of an inspection 299
certificate issued under section 3704.14 of the Revised Code and 300
rules adopted under it for a motor vehicle, the refusal of a 301
license for failure to present an inspection certificate or 302
alternative emissions certificate, and the stamping of the 303
inspection certificate or alternative emissions certificate by 304
the official issuing the certificate of registration apply to 305
the registration of and issuance of license plates for a motor 306
vehicle under sections 4503.102, 4503.12, 4503.14, 4503.15, 307
4503.16, 4503.171, 4503.172, 4503.19, 4503.40, 4503.41, 4503.42, 308
4503.43, 4503.44, 4503.46, 4503.47, and 4503.51 of the Revised 309
Code. 310

(2) (a) The registrar shall adopt rules ensuring that each 311
owner registering a motor vehicle in a county where a motor 312
vehicle inspection and maintenance program is in effect under 313
section 3704.14 of the Revised Code and rules adopted under it 314
receives information about the requirements established in that 315
section and those rules and about the need in those counties to 316

present an inspection certificate or an alternative emissions 317
certificate with an application for registration or 318
preregistration. 319

(b) Upon request, the registrar shall provide the director 320
of environmental protection, or any person that has been awarded 321
a contract under section 3704.14 of the Revised Code, an on-line 322
computer data link to registration information for all passenger 323
cars, noncommercial motor vehicles, and commercial cars that are 324
subject to that section. The registrar also shall provide to the 325
director of environmental protection a magnetic data tape 326
containing registration information regarding passenger cars, 327
noncommercial motor vehicles, and commercial cars for which a 328
multi-year registration is in effect under section 4503.103 of 329
the Revised Code or rules adopted under it, including, without 330
limitation, the date of issuance of the multi-year registration, 331
the registration deadline established under rules adopted under 332
section 4503.101 of the Revised Code that was applicable in the 333
year in which the multi-year registration was issued, and the 334
registration deadline for renewal of the multi-year 335
registration. 336

(J) Subject to division (K) of this section, application 337
for registration under the international registration plan, as 338
set forth in sections 4503.60 to 4503.66 of the Revised Code, 339
shall be made to the registrar on forms furnished by the 340
registrar. In accordance with international registration plan 341
guidelines and pursuant to rules adopted by the registrar, the 342
forms shall include the following: 343

(1) A uniform mileage schedule; 344

(2) The gross vehicle weight of the vehicle or combined 345
gross vehicle weight of the combination vehicle as declared by 346

the registrant; 347

(3) Any other information the registrar requires by rule. 348

(K) The registrar shall determine the feasibility of 349
implementing an electronic commercial fleet licensing and 350
management program that will enable the owners of commercial 351
tractors, commercial trailers, and commercial semitrailers to 352
conduct electronic transactions by July 1, 2010, or sooner. If 353
the registrar determines that implementing such a program is 354
feasible, the registrar shall adopt new rules under this 355
division or amend existing rules adopted under this division as 356
necessary in order to respond to advances in technology. 357

If international registration plan guidelines and 358
provisions allow member jurisdictions to permit applications for 359
registrations under the international registration plan to be 360
made via the internet, the rules the registrar adopts under this 361
division shall permit such action. 362

Sec. 4503.102. (A) (1) The registrar of motor vehicles may 363
adopt rules to establish a centralized system of motor vehicle 364
registration for initial registration, registration renewal, and 365
transfer of registration, by mail or by electronic means. 366

(2) Any person applying electronically for initial 367
registration or for transfer of registration may submit all 368
associated documents electronically through the centralized 369
system of motor vehicle registration established under this 370
section. The registrar or a deputy registrar shall verify and 371
authenticate such documents. 372

(3) Any person owning a motor vehicle that was registered 373
in the person's name during the preceding registration year 374
shall renew the registration of the motor vehicle not more than 375

ninety days prior to the expiration date of the registration 376
through one of the following: 377

(a) By mail or by electronic means through the centralized 378
system of registration established under this section; 379

(b) In person at any office of the registrar or at a 380
deputy registrar's office. 381

(B) (1) Except as provided in division (B) (2) of this 382
section, no less than forty-five days prior to the expiration 383
date of any motor vehicle registration, the registrar shall mail 384
a renewal notice to the person in whose name the motor vehicle 385
is registered. The renewal notice shall clearly state that the 386
registration of the motor vehicle may be renewed by mail or 387
electronic means through the centralized system of registration 388
or in person at any office of the registrar or at a deputy 389
registrar's office and shall be preprinted with information 390
including, but not limited to, the owner's name and residence 391
address as shown in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles, 392
a brief description of the motor vehicle to be registered, 393
notice of the license taxes and fees due on the motor vehicle, 394
the toll-free telephone number of the registrar as required 395
under division (D) (1) of section 4503.031 of the Revised Code, 396
and any additional information the registrar may require by 397
rule. The renewal notice shall not include the social security 398
number of either the owner of the motor vehicle or the person in 399
whose name the motor vehicle is registered. The renewal notice 400
shall be sent by regular mail to the owner's last known address 401
as shown in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles. 402

(2) The registrar is not required to mail a renewal notice 403
if either of the following applies: 404

(a) The owner of the vehicle has consented to receiving 405
the renewal notice by electronic means only. 406

(b) The application for renewal of the registration of a 407
motor vehicle is prohibited from being accepted by the registrar 408
or a deputy registrar by division (D) of section 2935.27, 409
division (A) of section 4503.13, division (B) of section 410
4510.22, division (D) of section 4503.234, division (B)(1) of 411
section 4521.10, or division (B) of section 5537.041 of the 412
Revised Code. 413

(3) If the owner of a motor vehicle has consented to 414
receiving a renewal notice by electronic means only, the 415
registrar shall send an electronic renewal notice to the owner 416
that contains the information specified in division (B)(1) of 417
this section at the time specified under that division. 418

~~(C)~~ (C) (1) The owner of the motor vehicle shall verify the 419
information contained in the notice, sign it either manually or 420
by electronic means, and return it, either by mail or electronic 421
means, or the owner may take it in person to any office of the 422
registrar or of a deputy registrar. ~~The~~ 423

(2) The owner shall include with the notice ~~a~~ all of the 424
following: 425

(a) A financial transaction device number when renewing in 426
person or by electronic means but not by mail, check, or money 427
order in the amount of the registration taxes and fees payable 428
on the motor vehicle ~~and~~, a service fee equal to the amount 429
established under section 4503.038 of the Revised Code, plus 430
postage as indicated on the notice if the registration is 431
renewed or fulfilled by mail, ~~and an~~; 432

(b) Proof of financial responsibility in the manner 433

described in division (G) of section 4509.101 of the Revised 434
Code; 435

(c) An inspection certificate or alternative emissions 436
certificate for the motor vehicle as provided in section 3704.14 437
of the Revised Code. ~~If—~~ 438

(3) If the motor vehicle owner chooses to renew the motor 439
vehicle registration by electronic means, the owner shall 440
proceed in accordance with the rules the registrar adopts. 441

(D) ~~If all~~ The registrar or deputy registrar shall refuse 442
an application for registration renewal and shall so notify the 443
owner or lessee if any of the following apply: 444

(1) All registration and transfer fees for the motor 445
vehicle for the preceding year or the preceding period of the 446
current registration year have not been paid, ~~if division;~~ 447

(2) Division (D) of section 2935.27, division (A) of 448
section 4503.13, division (B) of section 4510.22, division (D) 449
of section 4503.234, division (B) (1) of section 4521.10, or 450
division (B) of section 5537.041 of the Revised Code prohibits 451
acceptance of the renewal ~~notice, or if the~~ application; 452

(3) The owner or lessee does not have proof of financial 453
responsibility with respect to the motor vehicle being 454
registered; 455

(4) The owner or lessee does not have an inspection 456
certificate or alternative emissions certificate for the motor 457
vehicle as provided in section 3704.14 of the Revised Code, if 458
that section is applicable, ~~the license shall be refused, and~~ 459
~~the registrar or deputy registrar shall so notify the owner.~~ 460
~~This—~~ 461

This section does not require the payment of license or 462
registration taxes on a motor vehicle for any preceding year, or 463
for any preceding period of a year, if the motor vehicle was not 464
taxable for that preceding year or period under section 4503.02, 465
4503.04, 4503.11, 4503.12, or 4503.16 or Chapter 4504. of the 466
Revised Code. 467

(E) (1) Failure to receive a renewal notice does not 468
relieve a motor vehicle owner from the responsibility to renew 469
the registration for the motor vehicle. Any person who has a 470
motor vehicle registered in this state and who does not receive 471
a renewal notice as provided in division (B) of this section 472
prior to the expiration date of the registration shall request 473
an application for registration from the registrar or a deputy 474
registrar and sign the application manually or by electronic 475
means and submit the application and pay any applicable license 476
taxes and fees to the registrar or deputy registrar. 477

(2) If the owner of a motor vehicle submits an application 478
for registration and the registrar is prohibited by division (D) 479
of section 2935.27, division (A) of section 4503.13, division 480
(B) of section 4510.22, division (D) of section 4503.234, 481
division (B) (1) of section 4521.10, or division (B) of section 482
5537.041 of the Revised Code from accepting the application, the 483
registrar shall return the application and the payment to the 484
owner. If the owner of a motor vehicle submits a registration 485
renewal application to the registrar by electronic means and the 486
registrar is prohibited from accepting the application as 487
provided in this division, the registrar shall notify the owner 488
of this fact and deny the application and return the payment or 489
give a credit on the financial transaction device account of the 490
owner in the manner the registrar prescribes by rule adopted 491
pursuant to division (A) of this section. 492

(F) Every deputy registrar shall post in a prominent place 493
at the deputy's office a notice informing the public of the mail 494
registration system required by this section and also shall post 495
a notice that every owner of a motor vehicle and every chauffeur 496
holding a certificate of registration is required to notify the 497
registrar in writing of any change of residence within ten days 498
after the change occurs. The notice shall be in such form as the 499
registrar prescribes by rule. 500

(G) (1) The service fee equal to the amount established 501
under section 4503.038 of the Revised Code that is collected 502
from a person who renews a motor vehicle registration by 503
electronic means or by mail, plus postage collected by the 504
registrar and any financial transaction device surcharge 505
collected by the registrar, shall be paid to the credit of the 506
public safety - highway purposes fund established by section 507
4501.06 of the Revised Code. 508

(2) A person who submits an initial registration or a 509
transfer of registration by electronic means under this section 510
shall pay a service fee equal to the amount established under 511
section 4503.038 of the Revised Code, any necessary postage 512
costs, and any financial transaction device surcharge, as 513
applicable. The service fee collected shall be paid either to 514
the registrar or to the deputy registrar that verifies and 515
authenticates the submitted documents in accordance with 516
division (A) (2) of this section. If the registrar authorizes a 517
deputy registrar to mail the certificate of registration and any 518
associated license plate to the applicant, the postage costs 519
shall be paid to that deputy registrar. 520

(H) (1) Pursuant to section 113.40 of the Revised Code, the 521
registrar shall implement a program permitting payment of motor 522

vehicle registration taxes and fees, driver's license and 523
commercial driver's license fees, and any other taxes, fees, 524
penalties, or charges imposed or levied by the state by means of 525
a financial transaction device for transactions occurring 526
online, at any office of the registrar, and at all deputy 527
registrar locations. The program shall take effect not later 528
than July 1, 2016. The registrar shall adopt rules as necessary 529
for this purpose, but all such rules are subject to any action, 530
policy, or procedure of the board of deposit or treasurer of 531
state taken or adopted under section 113.40 of the Revised Code. 532

(2) The rules adopted under division (H) (1) of this 533
section shall require a deputy registrar to accept payments by 534
means of a financial transaction device beginning on the 535
effective date of the rules unless the deputy registrar contract 536
entered into by the deputy registrar prohibits the acceptance of 537
such payments by financial transaction device. However, 538
commencing with deputy registrar contract awards that have a 539
start date of July 1, 2016, and for all contract awards 540
thereafter, the registrar shall require that the proposer accept 541
payment by means of a financial transaction device, including 542
credit cards and debit cards, for all department of public 543
safety transactions conducted at that deputy registrar location. 544

The bureau and deputy registrars are not required to pay 545
any costs that result from accepting payment by means of a 546
financial transaction device. A deputy registrar may charge a 547
person who tenders payment for a department transaction by means 548
of a financial transaction device any cost the deputy registrar 549
incurs from accepting payment by the financial transaction 550
device, but the deputy registrar shall not require the person to 551
pay any additional fee of any kind in connection with the use by 552
the person of the financial transaction device. 553

(3) In accordance with division (H) (1) of this section and 554
rules adopted by the registrar under that division, a county 555
auditor or clerk of a court of common pleas that is designated a 556
deputy registrar shall accept payment by means of a financial 557
transaction device, including credit cards and debit cards, for 558
all department transactions conducted at the office of the 559
county auditor or clerk in the county auditor's or clerk's 560
capacity as deputy registrar. The bureau is not required to pay 561
any costs incurred by a county auditor or clerk that result from 562
accepting payment by means of a financial transaction device for 563
any department transaction. 564

(I) For persons who reside in counties where tailpipe 565
emissions inspections are required under the motor vehicle 566
inspection and maintenance program, the notice required by 567
division (B) of this section shall also include the toll-free 568
telephone number maintained by the Ohio environmental protection 569
agency to provide information concerning the locations of 570
emissions testing centers. The registrar also shall include a 571
statement in the notice that a battery electric motor vehicle is 572
not required to undergo emissions inspection under the motor 573
vehicle inspection and maintenance program established under 574
section 3704.14 of the Revised Code. 575

Sec. 4503.20. (A) As used in this section: 576

(1) "Dealer engaged in the business of leasing motor 577
vehicles" means any person engaged in the business of regularly 578
making available, offering to make available, or arranging for 579
another person to use a motor vehicle pursuant to a bailment, 580
lease, or other contractual arrangement. 581

(2) "Motor vehicle" has the meaning set forth in section 582
4509.01 of the Revised Code. 583

(B) ~~An~~—In addition to an applicant for registration or 584
registration renewal providing proof of financial responsibility 585
in accordance with division (B) (8) of section 4503.10 of the 586
Revised Code, an application for the registration of a motor 587
vehicle shall contain a statement, to be signed by the applicant 588
either manually or by electronic signature, that does all of the 589
following: 590

(1) States that the applicant maintains, or has maintained 591
on the applicant's behalf, proof of financial responsibility at 592
the time of application, and will not operate a motor vehicle in 593
this state, unless the applicant maintains, with respect to that 594
motor vehicle or the operation of such vehicle, proof of 595
financial responsibility; 596

(2) Contains a brief summary of the purposes and operation 597
of section 4509.101 of the Revised Code, the rights and duties 598
of the applicant under that section, and the penalties for 599
violation of that section; 600

(3) Warns the applicant that the financial responsibility 601
law does not prevent the possibility that the applicant may be 602
involved in an accident with an owner or operator of a motor 603
vehicle who is without proof of financial responsibility. 604

(C) (1) A person who purchases any motor vehicle from a 605
licensed motor vehicle dealer who agrees to make application for 606
registration of the motor vehicle on behalf of the purchaser 607
shall sign statements that comply with divisions (B) and (F) of 608
this section. The dealer shall submit the statements to the 609
deputy registrar where the dealer has agreed to make application 610
for registration on behalf of the person. 611

(2) In the case of a person who leases any motor vehicle 612

from a dealer engaged in the business of leasing motor vehicles 613
who agrees to make application for registration of the motor 614
vehicle on behalf of the lessee, the person shall sign a 615
statement that complies with division (B) of this section, and 616
the dealer shall do either of the following: 617

(a) Submit the statement signed by the person to the 618
deputy registrar where the dealer has agreed to make application 619
for registration on behalf of the person; 620

(b) Sign and submit a statement to the deputy registrar 621
that certifies that a statement has been signed and filed with 622
the dealer or incorporated into the lease. 623

The dealer shall submit to the registrar or deputy 624
registrar to whom the dealer submits the application for 625
registration a statement signed by the person that complies with 626
division (F) of this section. 627

(D) The registrar of motor vehicles shall prescribe the 628
form of the statements required under divisions (B), (C), and 629
(F) of this section, and the manner or manners in which the 630
statements required under divisions (B) and (F) of this section 631
shall be presented to the applicant. Any statement that is 632
required under divisions (B), (C), and (F) of this section shall 633
be designed to enable the applicant to retain a copy of it. 634

(E) Nothing within this section shall be construed to 635
excuse a violation of section 4509.101 of the Revised Code. A 636
motor vehicle dealer who makes application for the registration 637
of a motor vehicle on behalf of the purchaser or lessee of the 638
motor vehicle is not liable in damages in any civil action on 639
account of the act of making such application for registration 640
or the content of any such application for registration. 641

(F) In addition to the statements required by divisions 642
(B) and (C) of this section, a person who makes application for 643
registration of a motor vehicle shall be furnished with a form 644
that lists in plain language all the possible penalties to which 645
a person could be subject for a violation of the financial 646
responsibility law, including driver's license suspensions, 647
impoundment of certificates of registration and license plates, 648
and all fees, including ~~nonvoluntary compliance and~~ 649
reinstatement fees. The person shall read the form and either 650
manually or by electronic signature sign the form, which shall 651
be submitted along with the application for registration as 652
provided in this section. The form shall be retained by the 653
registrar or deputy registrar who issues the motor vehicle 654
registration or the registrar's or deputy registrar's successor 655
for a period of two years from the date of issuance of the 656
registration. 657

(G) Upon the registration of a motor vehicle, the owner of 658
the motor vehicle is deemed to have agreed to the production of 659
proof of financial responsibility by the owner or the operator 660
of the motor vehicle, upon the request of a peace officer or 661
state highway patrol trooper made in accordance with division 662
(D) (2) of section 4509.101 of the Revised Code. 663

(H) The registrar shall adopt rules governing the renewal 664
of motor vehicle registrations by electronic means, the 665
mechanism of providing proof of financial responsibility through 666
those electronic means, and the completion and submission of 667
statements that comply with divisions (B) and (F) of this 668
section. The registrar shall adopt the rules prescribed by this 669
division in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code. 670

Sec. 4503.48. (A) The owner or lessee of any passenger 671

car, noncommercial motor vehicle, recreational vehicle, or other 672
vehicle of a class approved by the registrar of motor vehicles 673
may apply to the registrar for the registration of the vehicle 674
and issuance of a blackout license plate. The application may be 675
combined with a request for a special reserved license plate 676
under section 4503.40 or 4503.42 of the Revised Code. Upon 677
receipt of the completed application and compliance by the 678
applicant with divisions (B) and (C) of this section, the 679
registrar shall issue to the applicant the appropriate vehicle 680
registration and a blackout license plate and a validation 681
sticker, or a validation sticker alone when required by section 682
4503.191 of the Revised Code. 683

In addition to the letters and numbers ordinarily 684
inscribed on the license plates, blackout license plates shall 685
have a black background with white letters or numbers. Blackout 686
license plates shall not display the slogan "BIRTHPLACE OF 687
AVIATION" as required under section 4503.22 of the Revised Code. 688
Blackout license plates also shall not display county 689
identification stickers that identify the county of registration 690
as required under section 4503.19 of the Revised Code. 691

(B) A blackout license plate and a validation sticker, or 692
validation sticker alone, shall be issued upon receipt of an 693
application for registration of a motor vehicle under this 694
section; payment of the regular license tax as prescribed under 695
section 4503.04 of the Revised Code, any applicable motor 696
vehicle license tax levied under Chapter 4504. of the Revised 697
Code, any applicable additional fee prescribed by section 698
4503.40 or 4503.42 of the Revised Code, a blackout license plate 699
fee as provided in division (C) of this section, and an 700
additional administrative fee of ten dollars; and compliance 701
with all other applicable laws relating to the registration of 702

motor vehicles. 703

(C) For each application for registration and registration 704
renewal notice the registrar receives under this section, the 705
registrar shall collect a blackout license plate fee of forty 706
dollars. The registrar shall deposit both of the following into 707
the state treasury to the credit of the public safety - highway 708
purposes fund created in section 4501.06 of the Revised Code: 709

(1) The forty-dollar blackout license plate fee, the 710
purpose of which is to offset the costs of the online financial 711
responsibility verification system established under sections 712
4509.43 to 4509.434 of the Revised Code; 713

(2) The ten-dollar administrative fee, the purpose of 714
which is to compensate the bureau of motor vehicles for 715
additional services required in the issuing of blackout license 716
plates. 717

Sec. 4507.212. (A) As used in this section, "motor 718
vehicle" has the same meaning as in section 4509.01 of the 719
Revised Code. 720

(B) An application for a driver's, commercial driver's, 721
restricted, or probationary license, or renewal of such license 722
shall contain a statement, to be signed by the applicant, that 723
does all of the following: 724

(1) States that the applicant maintains, or has maintained 725
on the applicant's behalf, proof of financial responsibility at 726
the time of application, and will not operate a motor vehicle in 727
this state, unless the applicant maintains, or has maintained on 728
the applicant's behalf, proof of financial responsibility; 729

(2) Contains a brief summary of the purposes and operation 730
of section 4509.101 of the Revised Code, the rights and duties 731

of the applicant under that section, and the penalties for 732
violation of that section; 733

(3) Warns the applicant that the financial responsibility 734
law does not prevent the possibility that the applicant may be 735
involved in an accident with an owner or operator of a motor 736
vehicle who is without proof of financial responsibility. 737

(C) The registrar of motor vehicles shall prescribe the 738
form of the statement, and the manner in which the statement 739
shall be presented to the applicant. The statement shall be 740
designed to enable the applicant to retain a copy of it. 741

(D) Nothing within this section shall be construed to 742
excuse a violation of section 4509.101 of the Revised Code. 743

(E) At the time a person submits an application for a 744
driver's, commercial driver's, restricted, or probationary 745
license, or renewal of such a license, the applicant also shall 746
be furnished with a form that lists in plain language all the 747
possible penalties to which the applicant could be subject for a 748
violation of the financial responsibility law, including 749
driver's license suspensions, impoundment of certificates of 750
registration and license plates, and all fees, including 751
~~nonvoluntary compliance and reinstatement~~ fees. The applicant 752
shall sign the form, which shall be submitted along with the 753
application. The form shall be retained by the registrar or 754
deputy registrar who issues the license or renewal or the 755
registrar's or deputy registrar's successor for a period of two 756
years from the date of issuance of the license or renewal. The 757
registrar shall prescribe the manner in which the form shall be 758
presented to the applicant, and the format of the form, which 759
shall be such that the applicant can retain a copy of it. 760

Sec. 4509.101. (A) (1) No person shall operate, or permit 761
the operation of, a motor vehicle in this state, unless proof of 762
financial responsibility is maintained continuously throughout 763
the registration period with respect to that vehicle, or, in the 764
case of a driver who is not the owner, with respect to that 765
driver's operation of that vehicle. 766

(2) Whoever violates division (A) (1) of this section shall 767
be subject to the following civil penalties: 768

(a) Subject to divisions (A) (2) (b) and (c) of this 769
section, a class (F) suspension of the person's driver's 770
license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction 771
permit, probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege 772
for the period of time specified in division (B) (6) of section 773
4510.02 of the Revised Code and impoundment of the person's 774
license. The court may grant limited driving privileges to the 775
person, but only if the person presents proof of financial 776
responsibility and is enrolled in a reinstatement fee payment 777
plan pursuant to section 4510.10 of the Revised Code. 778

(b) If, within one year of the violation, the person's 779
operating privileges are again suspended and the person's 780
license again is impounded for a violation of division (A) (1) of 781
this section, a class C suspension of the person's driver's 782
license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction 783
permit, probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege 784
for the period of time specified in division (B) (3) of section 785
4510.02 of the Revised Code. The court may grant limited driving 786
privileges to the person only if the person presents proof of 787
financial responsibility and has complied with division (A) (5) 788
of this section, and no court may grant limited driving 789
privileges for the first fifteen days of the suspension. 790

(c) If, within one year of the violation, the person's
operating privileges are suspended and the person's license is
impounded two or more times for a violation of division (A) (1)
of this section, a class B suspension of the person's driver's
license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction
permit, probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege
for the period of time specified in division (B) (2) of section
4510.02 of the Revised Code. The court may grant limited driving
privileges to the person only if the person presents proof of
financial responsibility and has complied with division (A) (5)
of this section, except that no court may grant limited driving
privileges for the first thirty days of the suspension.

(d) In addition to the suspension of an owner's license
under division (A) (2) (a), (b), or (c) of this section, the
suspension of the rights of the owner to register the motor
vehicle and the impoundment of the owner's certificate of
registration and license plates until the owner complies with
division (A) (5) of this section.

(e) The clerk of court shall waive the cost of filing a
petition for limited driving privileges if, pursuant to section
2323.311 of the Revised Code, the petitioner applies to be
qualified as an indigent litigant and the court approves the
application.

(3) A person to whom this state has issued a certificate
of registration for a motor vehicle or a license to operate a
motor vehicle or who is determined to have operated any motor
vehicle or permitted the operation in this state of a motor
vehicle owned by the person ~~shall be~~ is required to verify the
existence of proof of financial responsibility covering the
operation of the motor vehicle or the person's operation of the

motor vehicle under ~~either~~ any of the following circumstances: 821

(a) The person or a motor vehicle owned by the person is 822
involved in a traffic accident that requires the filing of an 823
accident report under section 4509.06 of the Revised Code. 824

(b) The person receives a traffic ticket indicating ~~that~~ 825
both of the following: 826

(i) That proof of the maintenance of financial 827
responsibility was not verified for the motor vehicle when a 828
peace officer or state highway patrol trooper made an inquiry 829
via the online financial responsibility verification system 830
established under sections 4509.43 to 4509.434 of the Revised 831
Code; 832

(ii) That proof of the maintenance of financial 833
responsibility was not produced upon the request of a peace 834
officer or state highway patrol trooper made in accordance with 835
division (D) (2) of this section. 836

(c) The person submits an application for registration or 837
registration renewal in accordance with the procedures specified 838
under section 4503.10 of the Revised Code. 839

(d) Whenever the registrar, via the online financial 840
responsibility verification system established under sections 841
4509.43 to 4509.434 of the Revised Code, determines that a 842
person is not maintaining proof of financial responsibility and 843
requests the person to respond under section 4509.433 of the 844
Revised Code. 845

(4) An order of the registrar that suspends and impounds a 846
license, registration, or both, shall state the date on or 847
before which the person is required to surrender the person's 848
license or certificate of registration and license plates. The 849

person is deemed to have surrendered the license or certificate 850
of registration and license plates, in compliance with the 851
order, if the person does either of the following: 852

(a) On or before the date specified in the order, delivers 853
the license or certificate of registration and license plates to 854
the registrar; 855

(b) Mails the license or certificate of registration and 856
license plates to the registrar in an envelope or container 857
bearing a postmark showing a date no later than the date 858
specified in the order. 859

(5) Except as provided in division (L) of this section or 860
division (B) of section 4509.434 of the Revised Code, the 861
registrar shall not restore any operating privileges or 862
registration rights suspended under this section, return any 863
license, certificate of registration, or license plates 864
surrendered under this section, or reissue license plates under 865
section 4503.232 of the Revised Code, if the registrar destroyed 866
the impounded license plates under that section, or reissue a 867
license under section 4510.52 of the Revised Code, if the 868
registrar destroyed the suspended license under that section, 869
unless the rights are not subject to suspension or revocation 870
under any other law and unless the person, in addition to 871
complying with all other conditions required by law for 872
reinstatement of the operating privileges or registration 873
rights, complies with all of the following: 874

(a) Pays to the registrar or an eligible deputy registrar 875
a financial responsibility reinstatement fee of forty dollars 876
for the first violation of division (A) (1) of this section, 877
three hundred dollars for a second violation of that division, 878
and six hundred dollars for a third or subsequent violation of 879

that division; 880

(b) Files and continuously maintains proof of financial 881
responsibility in accordance with sections 4509.44 to 4509.65 of 882
the Revised Code; 883

(c) Pays a deputy registrar a service fee of ten dollars 884
to compensate the deputy registrar for services performed under 885
this section. The deputy registrar shall retain eight dollars of 886
the service fee and shall transmit the reinstatement fee and two 887
dollars of the service fee to the registrar in the manner the 888
registrar shall determine. 889

(B) (1) Every party required to file an accident report 890
under section 4509.06 of the Revised Code also shall include 891
with the report a document described in division (G) (1) (a) of 892
this section or shall present proof of financial responsibility 893
through use of an electronic wireless communications device as 894
permitted by division (G) (1) (b) of this section. 895

If the registrar determines, within forty-five days after 896
the report is filed, that an operator or owner has violated 897
division (A) (1) of this section, the registrar shall do all of 898
the following: 899

(a) Order the suspension required under division (A) (2) 900
(a), (b), or (c) of this section of the license of any operator 901
or owner who has violated division (A) (1) of this section; 902

(b) With respect to the motor vehicle that is the subject 903
of the violation, order the impoundment required under division 904
(A) (2) (d) of this section of the certificate of registration and 905
license plates of any owner who has violated division (A) (1) of 906
this section; 907

(c) Record the name and address of the person whose 908

license has been suspended or is under an order of suspension, 909
or whose certificate of registration and license plates have 910
been impounded or are under an order of impoundment, the serial 911
number of the person's license, the serial numbers of the 912
person's certificate of registration and license plates, and the 913
person's social security account number, if assigned, or, where 914
the motor vehicle that is the subject of the violation is used 915
for hire or principally in connection with any established 916
business, the person's federal taxpayer identification number. 917
The information shall be recorded in such a manner that it 918
becomes a part of the person's permanent record, and assists the 919
registrar in monitoring compliance with the orders of suspension 920
or impoundment. 921

~~(e)~~ (d) Send written notification to every person to whom 922
the order pertains, at the person's last known address as shown 923
on the records of the bureau. The person, within ten days after 924
the date of the mailing of the notification, shall surrender to 925
the registrar, in a manner set forth in division (A)(4) of this 926
section, any license under an order of suspension, or any 927
certificate of registration and license plates under an order of 928
impoundment. 929

(2) The registrar shall issue any order under division (B) 930
(1) of this section without a hearing. Any person adversely 931
affected by the order, within fifteen days after the issuance of 932
the order, may request an administrative hearing before the 933
registrar, who shall provide the person with an opportunity for 934
a hearing in accordance with this paragraph. A request for a 935
hearing does not operate as a suspension of the order. The scope 936
of the hearing shall be limited to whether the person in fact 937
demonstrated to the registrar proof of financial responsibility 938
in accordance with this section. The registrar shall determine 939

the date, time, and place of any hearing, provided that the 940
hearing shall be held, and an order issued or findings made, 941
within thirty days after the registrar receives a request for a 942
hearing. If requested by the person in writing, the registrar 943
may designate as the place of hearing the county seat of the 944
county in which the person resides or a place within fifty miles 945
of the person's residence. The person shall pay the cost of the 946
hearing before the registrar, if the registrar's order of 947
suspension or impoundment is upheld. 948

(C) Any order of suspension or impoundment issued under 949
this section or division (B) of section 4509.37 of the Revised 950
Code may be terminated at any time if the registrar determines 951
upon a showing of proof of financial responsibility that the 952
operator or owner of the motor vehicle was in compliance with 953
division (A)(1) of this section at the time of the traffic 954
offense, motor vehicle inspection, or accident that resulted in 955
the order against the person. A determination may be made 956
without a hearing. This division does not apply unless the 957
person shows good cause for the person's failure to present 958
satisfactory proof of financial responsibility to the registrar 959
prior to the issuance of the order. 960

~~(D)(1)(a)~~ (D)(1) For the purpose of enforcing this section, 961
every peace officer is deemed an agent of the registrar. 962

~~(b) Any~~ (a) Except as provided in division (D)(1)(b) of 963
this section, any peace officer who, in the performance of the 964
peace officer's duties as authorized by law, becomes aware of a 965
person whose license is under an order of suspension, or whose 966
certificate of registration and license plates are under an 967
order of impoundment, pursuant to this section, may confiscate 968
the license, certificate of registration, and license plates, 969

and return ~~it~~ them to the registrar. 970

(b) Any peace officer who, in the performance of the peace 971
officer's duties as authorized by law, becomes aware of a person 972
whose license is under an order of suspension, or whose 973
certificate of registration and license plates are under an 974
order of impoundment, resulting from failure to respond to an 975
online financial responsibility verification system request, 976
shall not, for that reason arrest the owner or operator. 977
Instead, the peace officer shall issue a citation for a 978
violation of section 4510.16 of the Revised Code specifying the 979
circumstances as failure to respond to an online financial 980
responsibility verification system request. 981

(2) A peace officer shall ~~request the owner or operator of~~ 982
~~a motor vehicle to produce proof of financial responsibility in~~ 983
~~a manner described in division (G) of this section~~ make an 984
inquiry via the online financial responsibility verification 985
system at the time the peace officer acts to enforce the traffic 986
laws of this state and during motor vehicle inspections 987
conducted pursuant to section 4513.02 of the Revised Code. If 988
the results of the inquiry indicate no proof of the maintenance 989
of financial responsibility or are inconclusive, the peace 990
officer shall request the owner or operator of the motor vehicle 991
to produce proof of financial responsibility in a manner 992
described in division (G) of this section. 993

(3) A peace officer shall indicate on every traffic ticket 994
the results of the inquiry via the online financial 995
responsibility verification system and whether the person 996
receiving the traffic ticket produced proof of the maintenance 997
of financial responsibility in response to the officer's request 998
under division (D) (2) of this section, as applicable. The peace 999

officer shall inform every person who receives a traffic ticket 1000
and who has failed to produce proof of the maintenance of 1001
financial responsibility that the person must submit proof to 1002
the traffic violations bureau with any payment of a fine and 1003
costs for the ticketed violation or, if the person is to appear 1004
in court for the violation, the person must submit proof to the 1005
court. 1006

(4) (a) If a person who has failed to produce proof of the 1007
maintenance of financial responsibility appears in court for a 1008
ticketed violation, the court may permit the defendant to 1009
present evidence of proof of financial responsibility to the 1010
court at such time and in such manner as the court determines to 1011
be necessary or appropriate. In a manner prescribed by the 1012
registrar, the clerk of courts shall provide the registrar with 1013
the identity of any person who fails to submit proof of the 1014
maintenance of financial responsibility pursuant to division (D) 1015
(3) of this section. 1016

(b) If a person who has failed to produce proof of the 1017
maintenance of financial responsibility also fails to submit 1018
that proof to the traffic violations bureau with payment of a 1019
fine and costs for the ticketed violation, the traffic 1020
violations bureau, in a manner prescribed by the registrar, 1021
shall notify the registrar of the identity of that person. 1022

(5) (a) Upon receiving notice from a clerk of courts or 1023
traffic violations bureau pursuant to division (D) (4) of this 1024
section, the registrar shall order the suspension of the license 1025
of the person required under division (A) (2) (a), (b), or (c) of 1026
this section and the impoundment of the person's certificate of 1027
registration and license plates required under division (A) (2) 1028
(d) of this section, effective forty-five days after the date of 1029

the mailing of notification. The registrar also shall notify the 1030
person that the person must present the registrar with proof of 1031
financial responsibility in accordance with this section, 1032
surrender to the registrar the person's license, certificate of 1033
registration, and license plates, or submit a statement subject 1034
to section 2921.13 of the Revised Code that the person did not 1035
operate or permit the operation of the motor vehicle at the time 1036
of the offense. Notification shall be in writing and shall be 1037
sent to the person at the person's last known address as shown 1038
on the records of the bureau of motor vehicles. The person, 1039
within forty-five days after the date of the mailing of 1040
notification, shall present proof of financial responsibility, 1041
surrender the license, certificate of registration, and license 1042
plates to the registrar in a manner set forth in division (A) (4) 1043
of this section, or submit the statement required under this 1044
section together with other information the person considers 1045
appropriate. 1046

If the registrar does not receive proof or the person does 1047
not surrender the license, certificate of registration, and 1048
license plates, in accordance with this division, the registrar 1049
shall permit the order for the suspension of the license of the 1050
person and the impoundment of the certificate of registration 1051
and license plates to take effect. 1052

(b) In the case of a person who presents, within the 1053
forty-five-day period, proof of financial responsibility, the 1054
registrar shall terminate the order of suspension and the 1055
impoundment of the certificate of registration and license 1056
plates and shall send written notification to the person, at the 1057
person's last known address as shown on the records of the 1058
bureau. 1059

(c) Any person adversely affected by the order of the registrar under division (D) (5) (a) or (b) of this section, within fifteen days after the issuance of the order, may request an administrative hearing before the registrar, who shall provide the person with an opportunity for a hearing in accordance with this paragraph. A request for a hearing does not operate as a suspension of the order. The scope of the hearing shall be limited to whether, at the time of the hearing, the person presents proof of financial responsibility covering the vehicle and whether the person is eligible for an exemption in accordance with this section or any rule adopted under it. The registrar shall determine the date, time, and place of any hearing; provided, that the hearing shall be held, and an order issued or findings made, within thirty days after the registrar receives a request for a hearing. If requested by the person, the hearing may be held remotely by electronic means. If requested by the person in writing, the registrar may designate as the place of hearing the county seat of the county in which the person resides or a place within fifty miles of the person's residence. Such person shall pay the cost of the hearing before the registrar, if the registrar's order of suspension under division (D) (5) (a) or (b) of this section is upheld.

(6) Any forms used by law enforcement agencies in administering this section shall be prescribed, supplied, and paid for by the registrar.

(7) No peace officer, law enforcement agency employing a peace officer, or political subdivision or governmental agency that employs a peace officer shall be liable in a civil action for damages or loss to persons arising out of the performance of any duty required or authorized by this section.

(8) As used in this section, "peace officer" has the 1090
meaning set forth in section 2935.01 of the Revised Code. 1091

(E) All fees, except court costs, fees paid to a deputy 1092
registrar, and those portions of the financial responsibility 1093
reinstatement fees as otherwise specified in this division, 1094
collected under this section shall be paid into the state 1095
treasury to the credit of the public safety - highway purposes 1096
fund established in section 4501.06 of the Revised Code and used 1097
to cover costs incurred by the bureau in the administration of 1098
this section and sections 4503.20, 4507.212, and 4509.81 of the 1099
Revised Code, and by any law enforcement agency employing any 1100
peace officer who returns any license, certificate of 1101
registration, and license plates to the registrar pursuant to 1102
division (C) of this section. 1103

Of each financial responsibility reinstatement fee the 1104
registrar collects pursuant to division (A) (5) (a) of this 1105
section or receives from a deputy registrar under division (A) 1106
(5) (c) of this section, the registrar shall deposit ten dollars 1107
of each forty-dollar reinstatement fee, fifty dollars of each 1108
three-hundred-dollar reinstatement fee, and one hundred dollars 1109
of each six-hundred-dollar reinstatement fee into the state 1110
treasury to the credit of the indigent defense support fund 1111
created by section 120.08 of the Revised Code. 1112

(F) Chapter 119. of the Revised Code applies to this 1113
section only to the extent that any provision in that chapter is 1114
not clearly inconsistent with this section. 1115

(G) (1) (a) The registrar, court, traffic violations bureau, 1116
or peace officer may require proof of financial responsibility 1117
to be demonstrated by use of a standard form prescribed by the 1118
registrar. If the use of a standard form is not required, a 1119

person may demonstrate proof of financial responsibility under 1120
this section by presenting to the traffic violations bureau, 1121
court, registrar, or peace officer any of the following 1122
documents or a copy of the documents: 1123

(i) A financial responsibility identification card as 1124
provided in section 4509.103 of the Revised Code; 1125

(ii) A certificate of proof of financial responsibility on 1126
a form provided and approved by the registrar for the filing of 1127
an accident report required to be filed under section 4509.06 of 1128
the Revised Code; 1129

(iii) A policy of liability insurance, a declaration page 1130
of a policy of liability insurance, or liability bond, if the 1131
policy or bond complies with section 4509.20 or sections 4509.49 1132
to 4509.61 of the Revised Code; 1133

(iv) A bond or certification of the issuance of a bond as 1134
provided in section 4509.59 of the Revised Code; 1135

(v) A certificate of deposit of money or securities as 1136
provided in section 4509.62 of the Revised Code; 1137

(vi) A certificate of self-insurance as provided in 1138
section 4509.72 of the Revised Code. 1139

(b) A person also may present proof of financial 1140
responsibility under this section to the traffic violations 1141
bureau, court, registrar, or peace officer through use of an 1142
electronic wireless communications device as specified under 1143
section 4509.103 of the Revised Code. 1144

(2) If a person fails to demonstrate proof of financial 1145
responsibility in a manner described in division (G)(1) of this 1146
section, the person may demonstrate proof of financial 1147

responsibility under this section by any other method that the 1148
court or the bureau, by reason of circumstances in a particular 1149
case, may consider appropriate. 1150

(3) A motor carrier certificated by the interstate 1151
commerce commission or by the public utilities commission may 1152
demonstrate proof of financial responsibility by providing a 1153
statement designating the motor carrier's operating authority 1154
and averring that the insurance coverage required by the 1155
certificating authority is in full force and effect. 1156

(4) (a) A finding by the registrar or court that a person 1157
is covered by proof of financial responsibility in the form of 1158
an insurance policy or surety bond is not binding upon the named 1159
insurer or surety or any of its officers, employees, agents, or 1160
representatives and has no legal effect except for the purpose 1161
of administering this section. 1162

(b) The preparation and delivery of a financial 1163
responsibility identification card or any other document 1164
authorized to be used as proof of financial responsibility and 1165
the generation and delivery of proof of financial responsibility 1166
to an electronic wireless communications device that is 1167
displayed on the device as text or images does not do any of the 1168
following: 1169

(i) Create any liability or estoppel against an insurer or 1170
surety, or any of its officers, employees, agents, or 1171
representatives; 1172

(ii) Constitute an admission of the existence of, or of 1173
any liability or coverage under, any policy or bond; 1174

(iii) Waive any defenses or counterclaims available to an 1175
insurer, surety, agent, employee, or representative in an action 1176

commenced by an insured or third-party claimant upon a cause of 1177
action alleged to have arisen under an insurance policy or 1178
surety bond or by reason of the preparation and delivery of a 1179
document for use as proof of financial responsibility or the 1180
generation and delivery of proof of financial responsibility to 1181
an electronic wireless communications device. 1182

(c) Whenever it is determined by a final judgment in a 1183
judicial proceeding that an insurer or surety, which has been 1184
named on a document or displayed on an electronic wireless 1185
communications device accepted by a court or the registrar as 1186
proof of financial responsibility covering the operation of a 1187
motor vehicle at the time of an accident or offense, is not 1188
liable to pay a judgment for injuries or damages resulting from 1189
such operation, the registrar, notwithstanding any previous 1190
contrary finding, shall forthwith suspend the operating 1191
privileges and registration rights of the person against whom 1192
the judgment was rendered as provided in division (A) (2) of this 1193
section. 1194

(H) In order for any document or display of text or images 1195
on an electronic wireless communications device described in 1196
division (G) (1) of this section to be used for the demonstration 1197
of proof of financial responsibility under this section, the 1198
document or words or images shall state the name of the insured 1199
or obligor, the name of the insurer or surety company, and the 1200
effective and expiration dates of the financial responsibility, 1201
and designate by explicit description or by appropriate 1202
reference all motor vehicles covered which may include a 1203
reference to fleet insurance coverage. 1204

(I) For purposes of this section, "owner" does not include 1205
a licensed motor vehicle leasing dealer as defined in section 1206

4517.01 of the Revised Code, but does include a motor vehicle 1207
renting dealer as defined in section 4549.65 of the Revised 1208
Code. Nothing in this section or in section 4509.51 of the 1209
Revised Code shall be construed to prohibit a motor vehicle 1210
renting dealer from entering into a contractual agreement with a 1211
person whereby the person renting the motor vehicle agrees to be 1212
solely responsible for maintaining proof of financial 1213
responsibility, in accordance with this section, with respect to 1214
the operation, maintenance, or use of the motor vehicle during 1215
the period of the motor vehicle's rental. 1216

(J) The purpose of this section is to require the 1217
maintenance of proof of financial responsibility with respect to 1218
the operation of motor vehicles on the highways of this state, 1219
so as to minimize those situations in which persons are not 1220
compensated for injuries and damages sustained in motor vehicle 1221
accidents. The general assembly finds that this section contains 1222
reasonable civil penalties and procedures for achieving this 1223
purpose. 1224

(K) Nothing in this section shall be construed to be 1225
subject to section 4509.78 of the Revised Code. 1226

(L) (1) The registrar may terminate any suspension imposed 1227
under this section and not require the owner to comply with 1228
division (A) (5) of this section if the registrar with or without 1229
a hearing determines that the owner of the vehicle has 1230
established by clear and convincing evidence that all of the 1231
following apply: 1232

(a) The owner customarily maintains proof of financial 1233
responsibility. 1234

(b) Proof of financial responsibility was not in effect 1235

for the vehicle on the date in question for one of the following 1236
reasons: 1237

(i) The vehicle was inoperable. 1238

(ii) The vehicle is operated only seasonally, and the date 1239
in question was outside the season of operation, and the vehicle 1240
was not operated on that date. 1241

(iii) A person other than the vehicle owner or driver was 1242
at fault for the lapse of proof of financial responsibility 1243
through no fault of the owner or driver. 1244

(iv) The lapse of proof of financial responsibility was 1245
caused by excusable neglect under circumstances that are not 1246
likely to recur and do not suggest a purpose to evade the 1247
requirements of this chapter. 1248

(2) The registrar may grant an owner or driver relief for 1249
a reason specified in division (L)(1)(b)(iii) or (iv) of this 1250
section only if the owner or driver has not previously been 1251
granted relief under division (L)(1)(b)(iii) or (iv) of this 1252
section. 1253

(M) The registrar shall adopt rules in accordance with 1254
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code that are necessary to 1255
administer and enforce this section. The rules shall include 1256
provisions relating to acceptable forms of proof of financial 1257
responsibility, the use of an electronic wireless communications 1258
device to present proof of financial responsibility, and 1259
verification of the existence of financial responsibility during 1260
the period of registration. 1261

(N) (1) When a person utilizes an electronic wireless 1262
communications device to present proof of financial 1263
responsibility, only the evidence of financial responsibility 1264

displayed on the device shall be viewed by the registrar, peace 1265
officer, employee or official of the traffic violations bureau, 1266
or the court. No other content of the device shall be viewed for 1267
purposes of obtaining proof of financial responsibility. 1268

(2) When a person provides an electronic wireless 1269
communications device to the registrar, a peace officer, an 1270
employee or official of a traffic violations bureau, or the 1271
court, the person assumes the risk of any resulting damage to 1272
the device unless the registrar, peace officer, employee, or 1273
official, or court personnel purposely, knowingly, or recklessly 1274
commits an action that results in damage to the device. 1275

Sec. 4509.43. As used in sections 4509.43 to 4509.434 of 1276
the Revised Code: 1277

"Commercial motor vehicle coverage" means the insurance 1278
coverage provided for commercial motor vehicles, regardless of 1279
the number of commercial motor vehicles covered, the entity 1280
covered, or the format of the insurance. 1281

"Required financial responsibility verification event" 1282
means any event during which a person is required to provide 1283
proof of financial responsibility, including during traffic 1284
stops, traffic accidents, motor vehicle inspections, motor 1285
vehicle registration, and appearance before the traffic 1286
violations bureau. 1287

Sec. 4509.431. (A) (1) The registrar of motor vehicles 1288
shall, in accordance with sections 4509.43 to 4509.434 of the 1289
Revised Code and rules adopted under those sections, implement 1290
an online financial responsibility verification system. The 1291
registrar shall either create and develop the system or shall 1292
contract with a third party to create and develop the system. 1293

The system may be based in whole or in part on the model 1294
established by the insurance industry committee on motor vehicle 1295
administration. The registrar or the contracted third party 1296
shall ensure that the system is capable of electronically 1297
verifying proof of financial responsibility for motor vehicles 1298
that are registered in this state. 1299

(2) The entity that creates and develops the system is 1300
responsible for all ongoing maintenance of the system, including 1301
all technology support services, troubleshooting, and technology 1302
updates. 1303

(B) The registrar and any third party, if applicable, 1304
shall work together to ensure that all of the following apply to 1305
the online financial responsibility verification system: 1306

(1) At the time of a required financial responsibility 1307
verification event, it is able to verify whether a person 1308
operating a motor vehicle registered in this state has proof of 1309
financial responsibility with respect to that motor vehicle that 1310
is either maintained by the motor vehicle's owner or operator. 1311
The verification conducted under division (B) (1) of this section 1312
is based on the latest information included in the system, 1313
specifically whether the owner or operator has added, dropped, 1314
or changed the owner's or operator's proof of financial 1315
responsibility. 1316

(2) It is able to send requests to insurers for 1317
verification of proof of financial responsibility through 1318
electronic services or the internet using multiple data 1319
elements, including: 1320

(a) The national association of insurance commissioner's 1321
code that is specific to each licensed insurance company; 1322

(b) Vehicle identification number; 1323

(c) Policy number; 1324

(d) Any other data element as determined by the registrar 1325
by rule. 1326

(3) It uses data and data transmission formats that are 1327
compatible with the technology and systems available to and used 1328
by the bureau of motor vehicles. 1329

(4) It provides sufficient measures for the security and 1330
integrity of the data contained in and obtained through use of 1331
the system. Such measures may include measures that limit the 1332
use and disclosure of the data in accordance with the disclosure 1333
authorized for personal information, other than sensitive 1334
personal information, in section 4501.27 of the Revised Code and 1335
in compliance with all federal and state data privacy laws. 1336

(C) The registrar and any third party, if applicable, 1337
shall maintain a record of all system data related to an inquiry 1338
and the response to that inquiry for not less than six months 1339
after the date of the inquiry and the response to that inquiry. 1340

(D) The registrar and any third party, if applicable, may 1341
implement periods of reasonable system downtime for system 1342
maintenance as determined by the registrar. 1343

Sec. 4509.432. (A) Except as otherwise provided by this 1344
section, any insurer that provides proof of financial 1345
responsibility for a motor vehicle registered in this state 1346
shall do all of the following with respect to the online 1347
financial responsibility verification system: 1348

(1) Cooperate with the registrar of motor vehicles and any 1349
third party, if applicable, in establishing and operating the 1350

system; 1351

(2) Maintain the data necessary to verify proof of 1352
financial responsibility provided to customers and update such 1353
data as necessary and in the time period established by and 1354
through the system; 1355

(3) Maintain any internet or electronic service through 1356
which the online verification can take place, including the 1357
ability to respond to authorized inquiries regarding whether a 1358
motor vehicle is insured or an insurance policy is in effect on 1359
the requested date that is based on the latest information 1360
included in the system; 1361

(4) Provide data security consistent with all established 1362
and agreed-upon standards; 1363

(5) Maintain a record of all system data related to an 1364
inquiry and the response to that inquiry for not less than six 1365
months after the date of the inquiry and the response to that 1366
inquiry. 1367

(B) Any insurer that provides commercial motor vehicle 1368
coverage or that covers less than one thousand motor vehicles 1369
registered in this state shall cooperate with the registrar to 1370
verify proof of financial responsibility either by using the 1371
online financial responsibility verification system or by 1372
establishing a mechanism to verify coverage through data file 1373
transfers to the registrar, in a form and in the time period 1374
established by the registrar. A vehicle identification number is 1375
not required as part of the data transfer if the commercial 1376
motor vehicle coverage is a nonvehicle specific policy or is not 1377
regularly required by the insurer. 1378

(C) 1379

An insurer may use a third party service provider to 1380
facilitate the responsibilities of the insurer under this 1381
section. 1382

(D) An insurer and third-party service provider are immune 1383
from civil and administrative liability if that insurer or 1384
provider makes reasonable efforts, as determined by the 1385
registrar, to comply with this section. 1386

Sec. 4509.433. (A) When, through the operation of the 1387
online financial responsibility verification system, a person is 1388
identified as not having proof of financial responsibility with 1389
respect to a motor vehicle owned or leased by that person, 1390
notice shall be sent to the person, either by electronic means 1391
or through regular mail at the last known address on record for 1392
the person. The notice shall request that the person respond in 1393
accordance with rules adopted by the registrar of motor vehicles 1394
under section 4509.434 of the Revised Code by doing one of the 1395
following: 1396

(1) Providing proof of financial responsibility; 1397

(2) Obtaining a motor vehicle liability policy or other 1398
form of proof of financial responsibility and subsequently 1399
providing proof of financial responsibility; 1400

(3) Verifying that the person who received the request 1401
does not have legal title or right of possession to the motor 1402
vehicle that is the subject of the request; 1403

(4) Verifying that proof of financial responsibility was 1404
not in effect for the motor vehicle on the date in question for 1405
one of the reasons specified in division (L) (1) (b) of section 1406
4509.101 of the Revised Code. 1407

(B) If a person fails to respond to the notice sent under 1408

division (A) of this section within the time frame established 1409
by the registrar under rules adopted under section 4509.434 of 1410
the Revised Code, that failure may result in the suspension of 1411
the person's driver's license or impoundment of the person's 1412
certificate of registration and license plates and the 1413
imposition of reinstatement fees and other monetary penalties in 1414
accordance with an order issued under section 4509.434 of the 1415
Revised Code. 1416

Sec. 4509.434. (A) The registrar of motor vehicles shall 1417
adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code 1418
that do all of the following: 1419

(1) Establish procedures for issuing and responding to a 1420
notice under section 4509.433 of the Revised Code, including all 1421
of the following: 1422

(a) The information to be included in the notice, 1423
including a warning that failure to respond may result in the 1424
suspension of the person's driver's license, impoundment of the 1425
person's certificate of registration and license plates, and the 1426
imposition of reinstatement fees and other monetary penalties; 1427

(b) The manner, timing, and number of notices that shall 1428
be sent to a person identified as not having proof of financial 1429
responsibility for a motor vehicle owned or leased by that 1430
person; 1431

(c) The entity responsible for sending the notices. 1432

(2) Establish procedures for verifying proof of financial 1433
responsibility, sale or disposition of the motor vehicle that is 1434
the subject of a notice, evidence that proof of financial 1435
responsibility was reasonably excused for the motor vehicle that 1436
is the subject of the notice and on the date in question in 1437

accordance with division (L) (1) (b) of section 4509.101 of the 1438
Revised Code, or that the notice is in any manner invalid. The 1439
rules shall authorize such verification either through 1440
electronic means, by mail, or at the office of a deputy 1441
registrar. 1442

(3) Establish procedures for the registrar to issue an 1443
order imposing the civil penalties required under division (A) 1444
(2) of section 4509.101 of the Revised Code if a person fails to 1445
respond within the time frame established by rule after any 1446
final notice is sent under section 4509.433 of the Revised Code; 1447

(4) Establish procedures for a person adversely affected 1448
by an order issued under division (A) (3) of this section to 1449
request an administrative hearing before the registrar; 1450

(5) Establish procedures and requirements for implementing 1451
division (B) of section 4509.432 of the Revised Code; 1452

(6) Establish any other procedures and requirements 1453
necessary to administer and implement sections 4509.43 to 1454
4509.434 of the Revised Code. 1455

(B) The registrar shall terminate an order of suspension 1456
and impoundment issued under division (A) (2) of section 4509.101 1457
of the Revised Code and rules adopted under this section and 1458
restore operating and motor vehicle registration privileges of a 1459
person if both of the following apply: 1460

(1) The registrar issued the order under this section 1461
because the person failed to respond within the time frame 1462
established by rule after any final notice was sent under 1463
section 4509.433 of the Revised Code. 1464

(2) The registrar or a deputy registrar determines that 1465
the person was in compliance with division (A) (1) of section 1466

4509.101 of the Revised Code within the time frame established 1467
by rule after any final notice was sent under section 4509.433 1468
of the Revised Code. 1469

If division (B) of this section applies to a person, the 1470
person is not required to continuously file proof of financial 1471
responsibility or pay the fees established in divisions (A) (5) 1472
(a) and (b) of section 4509.101 of the Revised Code. 1473

(C) Any suspensions or impoundment of certificates of 1474
registration and license plates imposed in accordance with this 1475
section shall include a distinctive designation on the records 1476
of the bureau of motor vehicles and the registrar and on the 1477
records transmitted by the registrar to the law enforcement 1478
automated data system. 1479

(D) Notwithstanding any provision of section 121.95 of the 1480
Revised Code to the contrary, a regulatory restriction contained 1481
in a rule adopted under this section is not subject to sections 1482
121.95 to 121.953 of the Revised Code. 1483

Sec. 4509.66. Whenever any proof of financial 1484
responsibility filed under sections 4509.01 to 4509.78, 1485
inclusive, of the Revised Code, no longer fulfills the purposes 1486
for which required, the registrar of motor vehicles shall 1487
require other proof and shall suspend the license and motor 1488
vehicle registration or the nonresident's operating privilege 1489
pending the filing of such other proof. 1490

Sec. 4509.67. (A) The registrar of motor vehicles shall, 1491
upon request, consent to the immediate cancellation of any bond 1492
or certificate of insurance, return to the person entitled any 1493
money deposited under sections 4509.01 to 4509.78 of the Revised 1494
Code, as proof of financial responsibility, or waive the 1495

requirement of filing proof, in any of the following events: 1496

(1) At any time after one year from the date such proof 1497
was required when, during the one year preceding the request, 1498
the registrar has not received record of a conviction or bail 1499
forfeiture which would require or permit the suspension or 1500
revocation of the license, motor vehicle registration, or 1501
nonresident's operating privilege of the person by or for whom 1502
such proof was furnished; 1503

(2) In the event of the death of the person on whose 1504
behalf such proof was filed or the permanent incapacity of such 1505
person to operate a motor vehicle; 1506

(3) In the event the person who has given proof surrenders 1507
the person's license and motor vehicle registration to the 1508
registrar. 1509

(B) The registrar shall not consent to the cancellation of 1510
any bond or the return of any money if any action for damages 1511
upon a liability covered by such proof is pending, or any 1512
judgment upon any such liability is unsatisfied, or in the event 1513
the person who has filed such bond or deposited such money has 1514
within two years immediately preceding such request been 1515
involved as a driver or owner in any motor vehicle accident 1516
resulting in injury to the person or property of others. An 1517
affidavit of the applicant as to the nonexistence of such facts, 1518
or that the applicant has been released from all liability, or 1519
has been finally adjudicated not liable, for such injury may be 1520
accepted as evidence thereof in the absence of evidence to the 1521
contrary in the records of the registrar. 1522

(C) Whenever any person whose proof has been canceled or 1523
returned under division (A) (3) of this section applies for a 1524

license or motor vehicle registration within a period of one 1525
year from the date proof was originally required, any such 1526
application shall be refused unless the applicant re-establishes 1527
proof of financial responsibility for the remainder of the one- 1528
year period. 1529

Sec. 4509.69. Any person whose license or motor vehicle 1530
registration has been suspended, or whose policy of insurance or 1531
bond has been canceled or terminated, or who neglects to furnish 1532
other proof of financial responsibility upon request of the 1533
registrar of motor vehicles, shall immediately return the 1534
person's license, certificate of registration, and license 1535
plates to the registrar. 1536

Sec. 4509.77. (A) No person shall willfully fail to return 1537
a license, certificate of registration, or license plates as 1538
required in section 4509.69 of the Revised Code. 1539

(B) Whoever violates this section shall be fined not more 1540
than five hundred dollars, imprisoned for not more than thirty 1541
days, or both. 1542

Section 2. That existing sections 4503.10, 4503.102, 1543
4503.20, 4507.212, 4509.101, 4509.66, 4509.67, 4509.69, and 1544
4509.77 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 1545

Section 3. (A) The Registrar of Motor Vehicles shall not 1546
make the online financial verification system established under 1547
sections 4509.43 to 4509.434 of the Revised Code operational for 1548
the nine-month period immediately after the effective date of 1549
this section. Beginning nine months after the effective date of 1550
this section, the Registrar shall implement the system as a 1551
pilot program for a period of nine months. During the pilot 1552
program, all of the following apply: 1553

(1) The Registrar shall work with any third party creator 1554
or developer, if applicable, and insurers to discover and 1555
correct any technological challenges, problems, or delays in the 1556
system. 1557

(2) The Registrar shall work with law enforcement agencies 1558
and courts to discover and correct any technological problems 1559
and problems with access to the system's data. 1560

(3) No person shall be penalized for failure to provide 1561
proof of financial responsibility solely based on data provided 1562
by the system. 1563

(B) At the conclusion of the nine-month pilot program, the 1564
online financial responsibility verification system shall be 1565
fully operational. Beginning on the day after the pilot program 1566
terminates, a person may be penalized in accordance with 1567
applicable law for failure to provide proof of financial 1568
responsibility based on data provided by the system. 1569

(C) Not later than two years after the effective date of 1570
this section, the Registrar shall submit a report regarding the 1571
online financial responsibility verification system to the 1572
General Assembly. The report shall specify the costs of the 1573
system for the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, any ongoing challenges 1574
in implementing and administering the system, the benefits of 1575
the system, and the effectiveness of the system in reducing the 1576
number of uninsured motor vehicles in this state. 1577