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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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H.B. 931
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Williams

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SUMMARY

- Requires all motor vehicles owned or leased by the state capable of using E15 blended fuel to be refueled using E15 blended fuel, if that fuel is reasonably available at a reasonable price.
- Requires the directors and heads of all state departments and agencies to issue a directive to all state employees who use state motor vehicles informing them of the fuel-use requirement when instructed to do so by the Director of Administrative Services.
- Requires the Director of Administrative Services to phase-in the above requirements in 25% increments over the course of the four years following the bill's effective date.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

E15 blended fuel in state motor vehicles

The bill requires all motor vehicles owned or leased by the state capable of using E15 blended fuel to be refueled using E15 blended fuel if that fuel is reasonably available at a reasonable price. E15 blended fuel is a gasoline that is blended with 10% to 15% ethanol. The directors and heads of all state departments and agencies must issue a directive to all state employees who use state motor vehicles informing them of the fuel-use requirement when instructed to do so by the Director of Administrative Services. The directive must instruct state employees to purchase E15 blended fuel at retail fuel facilities whenever possible.¹

The bill requires the Director of Administrative Services to phase-in the above requirements in 25% increments over the course of the four years following the bill's effective date. Additionally, the Director must determine the best mechanism for implementing the

¹ R.C. 125.831(E) and 125.833(A) and (C); conforming change in R.C. 125.832.

phase-in, whether by location of the subject motor vehicles, by state departments or agencies whose employees operate the subject motor vehicles, or by individuals who operate the subject motor vehicles. The bill requires the Director to adopt rules to implement the fuel use and phase-in requirements.²

Alternative fuel vehicles

Current law requires the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to ensure that all new motor vehicles acquired by the state for use by state agencies can use alternative fuels. Furthermore, DAS is prohibited from purchasing or leasing, or authorizing a state agency to purchase or lease, any motor vehicles that are incapable of using alternative fuels, unless certain conditions apply. Specifically, DAS may purchase or lease motor vehicles that cannot use alternative fuels if a department or state agency is unable to acquire or operate the motor vehicles within DAS' cost limitations, the use of alternative fuels would not meet the energy conservation and exhaust emissions criteria, or DAS determines an emergency or exigent circumstance exists.³

Alternative fuels are any of the following fuels used in a motor vehicle:

1. E85 blend fuel;
2. Blended biodiesel;
3. Natural gas;
4. Liquefied petroleum gas;
5. Hydrogen;
6. Compressed air;
7. Any power source, including electricity;
8. Any fuel not described above that the U.S. Department of Energy determines, by final rule, to be substantially not petroleum, and that would yield substantial energy security and environmental benefits.⁴

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	05-19-26

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² R.C. 125.833(B).

³ R.C. 125.834(B), not in the bill.

⁴ R.C. 125.831(A); R.C. 125.834, not in the bill.