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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

S.B. 280
136th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for S.B. 280's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Johnson

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- The Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) will incur costs of at least \$6.35 to produce each “Historical Vehicle – Ohio” license plate issued. That cost will be offset by the collection of a one-time \$10 fee that is charged under existing law when a “Historical Vehicle – Ohio” license plate is issued.
- The BMV and political subdivisions may experience a no more than minimal loss in state and local vehicle registration taxes and fees annually for each high-mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicle that is registered as a historical vehicle instead of a passenger vehicle.

Detailed Analysis

The bill allows for the registration of a high-mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicle manufactured for military purposes, otherwise known as an HMMWV or “Humvee” as a historical motor vehicle. Current law defines “historical motor vehicle” as any motor vehicle that is more than 25 years old and is owned solely as a collector’s item for participation in club activities, exhibitions, tours, parades, and similar uses, but not for general transportation.¹

Under continuing law, a historical motor vehicle is subject to a \$10 one-time registration fee that is paid in lieu of the annual license tax typically levied on motor vehicles. Additionally, a historical vehicle may either display a “Historical Vehicle – Ohio” license plate issued by the

¹ R.C. 4503.181.

Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV), which can be obtained for an additional one-time fee of \$10, or a model year license plate that is procured by the applicant.²

Specialty license plates are produced by the BMV via a print-on-demand process at a cost of \$6.35 for a single license plate or \$7.70 for a pair.³ The costs to obtain a “Historical Vehicle – Ohio” license plate, if desired by the applicant, will be offset by payment of the additional one-time \$10 fee, which is credited to the Public Safety – Highway Purposes Fund (Fund 5TM0) and used in part to pay the BMV’s expenses related to titling motor vehicles, licensing drivers, and registering motor vehicles.

Both the registration and the license plate for a historical vehicle are valid without renewal for the life of the vehicle, unless the vehicle changes ownership. This means that the BMV and certain political subdivisions would lose a combined total of \$44-\$74 in revenue annually for each Humvee registered as a historical vehicle instead of as a passenger vehicle. That amount consists of the \$20 base tax for a passenger car, a \$16 BMV fee, an \$8 deputy registrar/service fee, and up to \$30 in permissive local motor vehicle taxes. The net fiscal effect of the revenue gained from historical motor vehicle registration and the amount of passenger car registration fee revenue lost is expected to be minimal, at most, annually.

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² Additional fees apply if the applicant wishes to obtain an initial reserve (\$25) or personalized (\$50) “Historical” license plate.

³ Under current law, a person registering a motor vehicle may elect to purchase a single license plate or a set of two plates.