As Introduced

134th General Assembly Regular Session 2021-2022

H. B. No. 16

Representatives Stephens, Baldridge

A BILL

То	amend sections 4511.11, 5501.31, 5501.42,	1
	5521.01, and 5521.011; to amend, for the purpose	2
	of adopting a new section number as indicated in	3
	parentheses, section 5521.011 (5521.012); and to	4
	enact new section 5521.011 of the Revised Code	5
	to clarify and amend the laws related to the	6
	Director of Transportation's responsibilities	7
	for state highways located in villages and	8
	cities	9

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

Section 1. That sections 4511.11, 5501.31, 5501.42,	10
5521.01, and 5521.011 be amended; section 5521.011 (5521.012) be	11
amended for the purpose of adopting a new section number as	12
indicated in parentheses; and new section 5521.011 of the	13
Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:	14
Sec. 4511.11. (A) Local Except as provided in division (C)	15
of this section, local authorities in their respective	16
jurisdictions shall place and maintain traffic control devices	17
in accordance with the department of transportation manual for a	18
uniform system of traffic control devices adopted under section	1 C

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4511.09 of the Revised Code, upon highways under their	20
Tolling of the nevisor code, apon highways and onell	
jurisdiction as are necessary to indicate and to carry out	21
sections 4511.01 to 4511.76 and 4511.99 of the Revised Code,	22
local traffic ordinances, or to regulate, warn, or guide	23
traffic.	24
(B) The director of transportation may require to be	25
removed any traffic control device that does not conform to the	26
manual for a uniform system of traffic control devices on the	27
extensions of the state highway system within municipal	28
corporations.	29
(C) The director shall place and maintain any traffic	30
control signal upon an extension of a state highway within a	31
village. No village shall place or maintain any traffic control	32
signal upon an extension of the state highway system within the	33
village without first obtaining the permission of the director.	34
The director may revoke the permission and may require to be	35
removed any traffic control signal that has been erected without	36
the director's permission on an extension of a state highway	37
within a village, or that, if erected under a permit granted by	38
the director, does not conform to the state manual, or that is	39
not operated in accordance with the terms of the permit.	40
(D) All traffic control devices erected on any street,	41
highway, alley, bikeway, or private road open to public travel	42
shall conform to the state manual.	43
(E) No person, firm, or corporation shall sell or offer	44
for sale to local authorities any traffic control device that	45
does not conform to the state manual, except by permission of	46
the director.	47
(F) No local authority shall purchase or manufacture any	48

street, or way adjacent to or under the bridge or viaduct when

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the extension, widening, or alteration of the feeder road,	77
street, or way is necessary for the full utilization of the	78
bridge or viaduct, or for any;	79
(c) The location or construction of any other highway	80
improvement. The	81
(2) Incident to any highway improvement that the director	82
is or may be authorized to locate or construct, the director may	83
purchase or appropriate, for such length of time as is necessary	84
and desirable, any additional property required for the	85
construction and maintenance of slopes, detour roads, sewers,	86
roadside parks, rest areas, recreational park areas, park and	87
ride facilities, and park and carpool or vanpool facilities,	88
scenic view areas, drainage systems, or land to replace	89
wetlands, incident to any highway improvement, that the director	90
is or may be authorized to locate or construct. Also incident	91
(3) Incident to any authorized highway improvement, the	92
director may purchase property from a willing seller as required	93
for the either of the following:	94
(a) The construction and maintenance of bikeways and	95
bicycle paths or to ;	96
(b) To replace, preserve, or conserve any environmental	97
resource if the replacement, preservation, or conservation is	98
required by state or federal law.	99
(C) Title to property purchased or appropriated by the	100
director shall be taken in the name of the state either in fee	101
simple or in any lesser estate or interest that the director	102
considers necessary or proper, in . The title shall be in	103
accordance with forms to be prescribed by the attorney general.	104
The deed shall contain a description of the property and be	105

recorded in the county where the property is situated and, when	106
. When recorded, the deed shall be kept on file in the	107
department of transportation. The property may be described by	108
metes and bounds or by the department of transportation parcel	109
number as shown on a right of way plan recorded in the county	110
where the property is located.	111
Provided that when property, other than property used by a	112
railroad for operating purposes, is acquired in connection with	113
improvements involving projects affecting railroads wherein the	114
department is obligated to acquire property under grade-	115
separation statutes, or on other improvements wherein the	116
department is obligated to acquire lands under agreements with	117
railroads, or with a public utility, political subdivision,	118
public corporation, or private corporation owning transportation-	119
facilities for the readjustment, relocation, or improvement of	120
their facilities, (D) (1) The director may acquire a fee simple	121
title or an easement may be acquired in property by purchase or	122
appropriation in the name of $\frac{1}{2}$ railroad, public utility,	123
political subdivision, public corporation, or private	124
corporation in the discretion of the director for any of the	125
<pre>following purposes:</pre>	126
(a) Improvements for projects affecting railroads when the	127
department is obligated to acquire the property under grade	128
separation statutes;	129
(b) Improvements when the department is obligated to	130
acquire the property under agreements with railroads;	131
(c) The readjustment, relocation or improvement of	132
transportation facilities owned by the railroad, public utility,	133
political subdivision, public corporation, or private	134
corporation. When	135

(2) When the title to lands, which are required to adjust,	136
relocate, or improve such facilities pursuant to agreements with	137
the director, property is taken in the name of the state under	138
division (D)(1) of this section, then, in the discretion of the	139
director, the title to such lands property may be conveyed to	140
the railroad, public utility, political subdivision, or public	141
corporation for which they were it was acquired. The conveyance	142
shall be prepared by the attorney general and executed by the	143
governor and bear the great seal of the state of Ohio.	144
(3) Division (D) of this section does not apply to	145
property used by a railroad for operating purposes.	146
(E) The director, in the maintenance or repair of state	147
highways, is not limited to the use of the materials with which	148
the highways, including the bridges and culverts thereon, were	149
originally constructed, but may use any material that is proper	150
or suitable. The director may aid any board of county	151
commissioners in establishing, creating, and repairing suitable	152
systems of drainage for all highways within the jurisdiction or	153
control of the board-and. The director may advise with it the	154
board and the county engineer as to the establishment,	155
construction, improvement, maintenance, and repair of the	156
highways.	157
(F) Chapters 4561., 5501., 5503., 5511., 5513., 5515.,	158
5516., 5517., 5519., 5521., 5523., 5525., 5527., 5528., 5529.,	159
5531., 5533., and 5535. of the Revised Code do not prohibit the	160
federal government, any government agency, or any individual or	161
corporation, from contributing a portion of the cost of the	162
establishment, construction, reconstruction, relocating,	163
widening, resurfacing, maintenance, and repair of the highways	164
or transportation facilities.	165

Except in the case of maintaining, repairing, erecting	166
traffic signs on, or pavement marking of state highways within	167
villages, which is mandatory as required by section 5521.01 of	168
the Revised Code, and except as provided in section 5501.49 of	169
the Revised Code, no duty of constructing, reconstructing,	170
widening, resurfacing, maintaining, or repairing state highways	171
within municipal corporations, or the culverts thereon, shall	172
attach to or rest upon the director, but the director may	173
construct, reconstruct, widen, resurface, maintain, and repair-	174
the same with or without the cooperation of any municipal-	175
corporation, or with or without the cooperation of boards of	176
county commissioners upon each municipal corporation consenting	177
thereto.	178
Sec. 5501.42. (A) The director of transportation shall	179
have supervision and control of all trees and shrubs within the	180
limits of a state highway. The department of agriculture or	181
other proper department may, with the consent of the director of	182
transportation, take charge of the care of such trees, and such	183
department, in the event it takes charge of such trees, may,	184
with the consent of the director of transportation, plant	185
additional trees within the limits of a state highway. The cost	186
and expense of caring for or planting such trees may be paid out	187
of any funds available to the director or for the development of	188
forestry of the state.	189
The (B) (1) Except as provided under division (B) (2) of	190
this section, the director may cut, trim, or remove any grass,	191
shrubs, trees, or weeds growing or being within the limits of a	192
state highway.	193
(2) The director shall cut, trim, or remove any grass,	194

shrubs, trees, or weeds growing or being within the limits of a

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state highway located within the limits of a village.	196
The (C) Except as required under division (B)(2) of this	197
section, the powers conferred by this section upon the director	198
shall be exercised only when made necessary by the construction	199
or maintenance of the highway or for the safety of the traveling	200
public.	201
Sec. 5521.01. (A) Except as provided in division (B) of	202
this section, the director has no duty to construct,	203
reconstruct, widen, resurface, maintain, or repair a state	204
highway or a culvert thereon within a municipal corporation.	205
(B) The director of transportation, upon the request by	206
and the approval of in consultation with the legislative	207
authority of a village, shall maintain, repair, and apply do	208
both of the following:	209
(1) Maintain and repair any section of a state highway	210
within the limits of the village;	211
(2) Apply standard longitudinal pavement marking lines as	212
the director considers appropriate, or on any section of a state	213
highway within the limits of the village.	214
(C) The director, upon the request by and the approval of	215
the legislative authority of a village, may establish, do both of	216
the following:	217
(1) Establish, construct, reconstruct, improve, or widen	218
any section of a state highway within the limits of $\frac{1}{100}$	219
village. The director also may erect, including the elimination	220
of railway grade crossings;	221
(2) Erect regulatory and warning signs, as defined in the	222
manual adopted under section 4511.09 of the Revised Code, on any	223

section of a state highway within the limits of $\frac{1}{2}$ the village.	224
The-	225
(D) The director, upon the approval of the legislative	226
authority of a city, may establishdo either of the following:	227
(1) Establish, construct, reconstruct, improve, widen,	228
maintain, or repair any section of state highway within the	229
limits of a the city, including the elimination of railway grade	230
crossings , and ;	231
(2) Erect regulatory and warning signs, as defined in the	232
manual adopted under section 4511.09 of the Revised Code, on any	233
section of a state highway within the limits of the city.	234
(E) The director may pay the entire or any part of the	235
cost and expense thereof incurred from any activity described in	236
divisions (B) to (D) of this section from state funds, but in	237
all cases the director first shall obtain the consent of the	238
legislative authority of the municipal corporation, except that	239
<u>-</u>	240
(F) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to	241
the contrary, the director need not obtain the consent of the a	242
municipal corporation if the either of the following apply:	243
(1) The existing highway being changed or the location of	244
an additional highway being established was not within the	245
corporate limits of the municipal corporation at the time the	246
director determines the establishment or change should be made $\overline{}$	247
or if the;	248
(2) The director is acting pursuant to section 5501.49 of	249
the Revised Code or any other provision that expressly gives the	250
director such authority.	251

Except as provided in section 5501.49 of the Revised Code,	252
when in the opinion of the director there is urgent need to	253
establish a state highway, which is to be designated a federal-	254
aid highway, or a federal aid interstate highway within a	255
municipal corporation or, in the opinion of the director, any	256
federal aid highway or interstate federal aid highway is in	257
urgent need of repair, reconstruction, widening, improvement, or	258
relocation, so as to accommodate the traveling public, the	259
director shall submit a written request to the legislative-	260
authority of the municipal corporation for its consent to the	261
desired establishment or improvement. The legislative authority,	262
within sixty days after the written request has been received	263
from the director, either shall grant its consent to the	264
establishment or improvement or refuse consent by filing in	265
writing with the director a statement of its reasons for	266
refusing consent and any alternate proposals it considers	267
reasonable. If the legislative authority fails to act or refuses-	268
consent, the director, upon consideration of the reasons for	269
rejection, may make a resolution declaring the necessity of the	270
establishment or improvement, and then proceed in the same-	271
manner as if consent had been given. A certified copy of the	272
resolution shall be served upon the municipal legislative	273
authority, which, within twenty days from the date of service,	274
may appeal to the court of common pleas of the county in which	275
the municipal corporation is situated, upon the reasonableness-	276
and necessity of the action provided for in the resolution. In	277
the hearing upon appeal, the director shall introduce the record-	278
of the director's proceedings, including the director's findings	279
with respect to factors referred to in section 5521.011 of the	280
Revised Code, and such other competent evidence as the director	281
desires in support of the director's resolution, and the	282
municipality likewise may introduce competent evidence opposing	283

the resolution, and findings. The court may affirm or revoke the	284
resolution. The decision of the common pleas court may be	285
appealed to the court of appeals and the supreme court as in-	286
other cases. If the court affirms the resolution, the director-	287
may proceed with the establishment or improvement with or	288
without the cooperation of the municipal corporation. Any such	289
municipal corporation may cooperate with the director in the	290
work and pay such portion of the cost as is agreed upon between	291
the municipal corporation and the director. The legislative-	292
authority of any municipal corporation desiring to cooperate, by	293
resolution, may propose such cooperation to the director, and a	294
copy of the resolution, which shall set forth the proportion of	295
the cost and expense to be contributed by the municipal	296
corporation, shall be filed with the director. The director	297
shall cause to be prepared the necessary surveys, plans,	298
profiles, cross sections, estimates, and specifications and	299
shall file copies of them with the legislative authority of the	300
municipal corporation. After the legislative authority has	301
approved the surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections,	302
estimates, and specifications, and after the municipal	303
corporation has provided the funds necessary to meet the portion	304
of the cost of the work assumed by it, the municipal corporation	305
shall enter into a contract with the state providing for payment	306
by the municipal corporation of the agreed portion of the cost.	307
The form of the contract shall be prescribed by the attorney	308
general, and such contracts shall be submitted to the director	309
and approved before the receipt of bids. Section 5705.41 of the	310
Revised Code applies to such contract to be made by the	311
municipal corporation, and a duplicate of the certificate of the	312
chief fiscal officer of the municipal corporation shall be filed	313
in the office of the director. That part of the cost of the work	314
assumed by the municipal corporation shall be paid from the	315

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(b) The repair, reconstruction, widening, improvement, or	346
relocation of a federal aid highway or interstate federal aid	347
highway.	348
(2) The legislative authority, within sixty days after	349
receiving the written request from the director, shall do one of	350
<pre>the following:</pre>	351
(a) Grant its consent to the request;	352
(b) Refuse its consent by filing, in writing with the	353
director, a statement of its reasons for refusing consent and	354
any alternate proposals it considers reasonable.	355
(B) (1) If the legislative authority refuses consent under	356
division (A)(2) of this section, or fails to act, the director,	357
upon consideration of any reasons for the refusal to consent,	358
may adopt a resolution declaring the necessity of the actions	359
specified in the request for consent. The director may then	360
proceed in the same manner as if consent had been given. A	361
certified copy of the resolution shall be served upon the	362
legislative authority.	363
(2) Within twenty days from the date of service, the	364
legislative authority may appeal to the court of common pleas of	365
the county in which the municipal corporation is located. The	366
legislative authority, in the appeal, shall address the	367
reasonableness and necessity of the action provided for in the	368
director's resolution.	369
(3) In the hearing upon appeal, the director shall	370
<pre>introduce all of the following:</pre>	371
(a) The record of the director's proceedings;	372
(b) The director's findings with respect to factors	373

referred to in section 5521.012 of the Revised Code;	374
(c) Any other competent evidence in support of the	375
director's resolution.	376
(4) The legislative authority likewise may introduce	377
competent evidence opposing the resolution and the director's	378
findings.	379
(5) The court may affirm or revoke the resolution. The	380
decision of the common pleas court may be appealed to the court	381
of appeals and the supreme court as in other cases. If the court	382
affirms the resolution, the director may proceed with the	383
actions specified in the resolution with or without the	384
cooperation of the municipal corporation.	385
(C) A municipal corporation may cooperate with the	386
director in the work authorized by this section and pay such	387
portion of the cost as is agreed upon between the municipal	388
corporation and the director. The legislative authority of the	389
municipal corporation, by resolution, shall set forth the	390
proportion of the cost and expense to be contributed by the	391
municipal corporation, and shall file a copy of the resolution	392
with the director.	393
(D) (1) The director shall have the necessary surveys,	394
plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates, and specifications	395
prepared and shall file copies of them with the legislative	396
authority of the municipal corporation.	397
(2) The municipal corporation and the state shall enter	398
into a contract after both of the following occur:	399
(a) The legislative authority approves the surveys, plans,	400
profiles, cross sections, estimates, and specifications.	401

(b) The municipal corporation provides the funds necessary	402
to meet its portion of the cost of the work assumed by it.	403
(3) The attorney general shall prescribe the form of the	404
contract and the contract shall be submitted to the director and	405
approved before the receipt of bids.	406
(4) Section 5705.41 of the Revised Code applies to all	407
such contracts. A duplicate of the certificate of the chief	408
fiscal officer of the municipal corporation shall be filed in	409
the director's office.	410
(E)(1) The municipal corporation shall pay its portion of	411
the costs from either of the following:	412
(a) The proceeds of taxes or special assessments, or both;	413
(b) The proceeds of notes or bonds issued and sold in	414
anticipation of the collection of the taxes and assessments.	415
(2) For the purpose of providing funds for its share of	416
the cost, the municipal corporation may make special	417
assessments, levy taxes, and issue bonds or notes, in	418
anticipation of the collection of the same, as it would for	419
improvements constructed under the sole supervision and control	420
of the municipal corporation. All such assessments shall be	421
made, taxes levied, and bonds or notes issued and sold under	422
such conditions and restrictions as though the improvements	423
where of the same class and character and constructed under the	424
sole supervision and control of the municipal corporation.	425
(F) The improvement shall be constructed under the sole	426
supervision of the director. The proper officers of the	427
municipal corporation shall pay the proportion of the municipal	428
corporation's cost and expense upon the requisition of the	429
director and at times during the progress of the work as the	130

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	4.2.1
director determines or as otherwise provided by law.	431
(G) Section 5521.01 of the Revised Code governs the	432
responsibility for the ongoing maintenance or repair of any	433
improvement constructed under this section.	434
Sec. 5521.011 5521.012. (A) In determining new highway	435
locations the director shall consider the following factors,	436
wherever applicable, and include such considerations in the	437
record of his the director's proceedings: national	438
(1) National defense; economic	439
(2) Economic activity; employment	440
(3) Employment; open	441
(4) Open spaces; existing	442
(5) Existing park lands; recreation	443
(6) Recreation; fire	444
(7) Fire protection; esthetics	445
(8) Esthetics; public	446
(9) Public utilities; safety	447
(10) Safety; residential	448
(11) Residential character and location; religious	449
(12) Religious institutions and practices; rights	450
(13) Rights and freedoms of individuals; conduct	451
(14) Conduct and financing of government; conservation	452
(15) Conservation; property	453
(16) Property values; replacement	454

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(17) Replacement housing; education	455
(18) Education and disruption of school district	456
operations; specific-	457
(19) Specific numbers of families and businesses	458
displaced; engineering	459
(20) Engineering, right-of-way, and construction costs for	460
proposed highway facilities and related transportation	461
facilities; maintenance	462
(21) Maintenance of highway facilities and other	463
transportation facilities; use	464
(22) Use of highways and other transportation facilities,	465
and user costs; and operation	466
(23) Operation of highway facilities and other	467
transportation facilities during construction and following	468
completion.	469
(B) Documentation should cover the consideration given to	470
each determinant, including a statement as to which were not	471
considered significant as between alternatives.	472
Section 2. That existing sections 4511.11, 5501.31,	473
5501.42, 5521.01, and 5521.011 of the Revised Code are hereby	474
repealed.	475