

**As Introduced**

**133rd General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2019-2020**

**S. B. No. 152**

**Senator Huffman, M.**

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**A BILL**

To amend section 4509.101 of the Revised Code to  
alter the penalties related to the failure to  
maintain motor vehicle insurance, to require the  
Lima Municipal Court to establish a pilot  
program governing the repayment of driver's  
license reinstatement and court fees, and to  
make an appropriation.

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

**Section 1.** That section 4509.101 of the Revised Code be  
amended to read as follows:

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

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

(a) Subject to divisions (A) (2) (b) and (c) of this  
section, a class (F) suspension of the person's driver's

license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction 20  
permit, probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege 21  
for the period of time specified in division (B) (6) of section 22  
4510.02 of the Revised Code and impoundment of the person's 23  
license. 24

(b) If, within five years of the violation, the person's 25  
operating privileges are again suspended and the person's 26  
license again is impounded for a violation of division (A) (1) of 27  
this section, a class ~~C-E~~ suspension of the person's driver's 28  
license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction 29  
permit, probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege 30  
for the period of time specified in division (B) ~~(3)~~ (5) of 31  
section 4510.02 of the Revised Code. The court may grant limited 32  
driving privileges to the person only if the person presents 33  
proof of financial responsibility and has complied with division 34  
(A) (5) of this section, and no court may grant limited driving 35  
privileges for the first fifteen days of the suspension. 36

(c) If, within five years of the violation, the person's 37  
operating privileges are suspended and the person's license is 38  
impounded two or more times for a violation of division (A) (1) 39  
of this section, a class ~~B-D~~ suspension of the person's driver's 40  
license, commercial driver's license, temporary instruction 41  
permit, probationary license, or nonresident operating privilege 42  
for the period of time specified in division (B) ~~(2)~~ (4) of 43  
section 4510.02 of the Revised Code. The court may grant limited 44  
driving privileges to the person only if the person presents 45  
proof of financial responsibility and has complied with division 46  
(A) (5) of this section, except that no court may grant limited 47  
driving privileges for the first thirty days of the suspension. 48

(d) In addition to the suspension of an owner's license 49

under division (A) (2) (a), (b), or (c) of this section, the 50  
suspension of the rights of the owner to register the motor 51  
vehicle and the impoundment of the owner's certificate of 52  
registration and license plates until the owner complies with 53  
division (A) (5) of this section. 54

(3) A person to whom this state has issued a certificate 55  
of registration for a motor vehicle or a license to operate a 56  
motor vehicle or who is determined to have operated any motor 57  
vehicle or permitted the operation in this state of a motor 58  
vehicle owned by the person shall be required to verify the 59  
existence of proof of financial responsibility covering the 60  
operation of the motor vehicle or the person's operation of the 61  
motor vehicle under any of the following circumstances: 62

(a) The person or a motor vehicle owned by the person is 63  
involved in a traffic accident that requires the filing of an 64  
accident report under section 4509.06 of the Revised Code. 65

(b) The person receives a traffic ticket indicating that 66  
proof of the maintenance of financial responsibility was not 67  
produced upon the request of a peace officer or state highway 68  
patrol trooper made in accordance with division (D) (2) of this 69  
section. 70

(c) Whenever, in accordance with rules adopted by the 71  
registrar, the person is randomly selected by the registrar and 72  
requested to provide such verification. 73

(4) An order of the registrar that suspends and impounds a 74  
license or registration, or both, shall state the date on or 75  
before which the person is required to surrender the person's 76  
license or certificate of registration and license plates. The 77  
person is deemed to have surrendered the license or certificate 78

of registration and license plates, in compliance with the 79  
order, if the person does either of the following: 80

(a) On or before the date specified in the order, 81  
personally delivers the license or certificate of registration 82  
and license plates, or causes the delivery of the items, to the 83  
registrar; 84

(b) Mails the license or certificate of registration and 85  
license plates to the registrar in an envelope or container 86  
bearing a postmark showing a date no later than the date 87  
specified in the order. 88

(5) Except as provided in division (A) (6) or (L) of this 89  
section, the registrar shall not restore any operating 90  
privileges or registration rights suspended under this section, 91  
return any license, certificate of registration, or license 92  
plates impounded under this section, or reissue license plates 93  
under section 4503.232 of the Revised Code, if the registrar 94  
destroyed the impounded license plates under that section, or 95  
reissue a license under section 4510.52 of the Revised Code, if 96  
the registrar destroyed the suspended license under that 97  
section, unless the rights are not subject to suspension or 98  
revocation under any other law and unless the person, in 99  
addition to complying with all other conditions required by law 100  
for reinstatement of the operating privileges or registration 101  
rights, complies with all of the following: 102

(a) Pays to the registrar or an eligible deputy registrar 103  
a financial responsibility reinstatement fee of one hundred 104  
dollars ~~for the first violation of division (A) (1) of this~~ 105  
~~section, three hundred dollars for a second violation of that~~ 106  
~~division, and six hundred dollars for a third or subsequent~~ 107  
~~violation of that division;~~ 108

(b) If the person has not voluntarily surrendered the license, certificate, or license plates in compliance with the order, pays to the registrar or an eligible deputy registrar a financial responsibility nonvoluntary compliance fee in an amount, not to exceed fifty dollars, determined by the registrar;

(c) Files and continuously maintains proof of financial responsibility under sections 4509.44 to 4509.65 of the Revised Code;

(d) Pays a deputy registrar a service fee of ten dollars to compensate the deputy registrar for services performed under this section. The deputy registrar shall retain eight dollars of the service fee and shall transmit the reinstatement fee, any nonvoluntary compliance fee, and two dollars of the service fee to the registrar in the manner the registrar shall determine.

(6) If the registrar issues an order under division (A) (2) of this section resulting from the failure of a person to respond to a financial responsibility random verification request under division (A) (3) (c) of this section and the person successfully maintains an affirmative defense to a violation of section 4510.16 of the Revised Code or is determined by the registrar or a deputy registrar to have been in compliance with division (A) (1) of this section at the time of the initial financial responsibility random verification request, the registrar shall do both of the following:

(a) Terminate the order of suspension or impoundment;

(b) Restore the operating privileges and registration rights of the person without payment of the fees established in divisions (A) (5) (a) and (b) of this section and without a

requirement to file proof of financial responsibility. 138

(B) (1) Every party required to file an accident report 139  
under section 4509.06 of the Revised Code also shall include 140  
with the report a document described in division (G) (1) (a) of 141  
this section or shall present proof of financial responsibility 142  
through use of an electronic wireless communications device as 143  
permitted by division (G) (1) (b) of this section. 144

If the registrar determines, within forty-five days after 145  
the report is filed, that an operator or owner has violated 146  
division (A) (1) of this section, the registrar shall do all of 147  
the following: 148

(a) Order the impoundment, with respect to the motor 149  
vehicle involved, required under division (A) (2) (d) of this 150  
section, of the certificate of registration and license plates 151  
of any owner who has violated division (A) (1) of this section; 152

(b) Order the suspension required under division (A) (2) 153  
(a), (b), or (c) of this section of the license of any operator 154  
or owner who has violated division (A) (1) of this section; 155

(c) Record the name and address of the person whose 156  
certificate of registration and license plates have been 157  
impounded or are under an order of impoundment, or whose license 158  
has been suspended or is under an order of suspension; the 159  
serial number of the person's license; the serial numbers of the 160  
person's certificate of registration and license plates; and the 161  
person's social security account number, if assigned, or, where 162  
the motor vehicle is used for hire or principally in connection 163  
with any established business, the person's federal taxpayer 164  
identification number. The information shall be recorded in such 165  
a manner that it becomes a part of the person's permanent 166

record, and assists the registrar in monitoring compliance with 167  
the orders of suspension or impoundment. 168

(d) Send written notification to every person to whom the 169  
order pertains, at the person's last known address as shown on 170  
the records of the bureau. The person, within ten days after the 171  
date of the mailing of the notification, shall surrender to the 172  
registrar, in a manner set forth in division (A) (4) of this 173  
section, any certificate of registration and registration plates 174  
under an order of impoundment, or any license under an order of 175  
suspension. 176

(2) The registrar shall issue any order under division (B) 177  
(1) of this section without a hearing. Any person adversely 178  
affected by the order, within ten days after the issuance of the 179  
order, may request an administrative hearing before the 180  
registrar, who shall provide the person with an opportunity for 181  
a hearing in accordance with this paragraph. A request for a 182  
hearing does not operate as a suspension of the order. The scope 183  
of the hearing shall be limited to whether the person in fact 184  
demonstrated to the registrar proof of financial responsibility 185  
in accordance with this section. The registrar shall determine 186  
the date, time, and place of any hearing, provided that the 187  
hearing shall be held, and an order issued or findings made, 188  
within thirty days after the registrar receives a request for a 189  
hearing. If requested by the person in writing, the registrar 190  
may designate as the place of hearing the county seat of the 191  
county in which the person resides or a place within fifty miles 192  
of the person's residence. The person shall pay the cost of the 193  
hearing before the registrar, if the registrar's order of 194  
suspension or impoundment is upheld. 195

(C) Any order of suspension or impoundment issued under 196

this section or division (B) of section 4509.37 of the Revised Code may be terminated at any time if the registrar determines upon a showing of proof of financial responsibility that the operator or owner of the motor vehicle was in compliance with division (A) (1) of this section at the time of the traffic offense, motor vehicle inspection, or accident that resulted in the order against the person. A determination may be made without a hearing. This division does not apply unless the person shows good cause for the person's failure to present satisfactory proof of financial responsibility to the registrar prior to the issuance of the order.

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

(a) Except as provided in division (D) (1) (b) of this section, any peace officer who, in the performance of the peace officer's duties as authorized by law, becomes aware of a person whose license is under an order of suspension, or whose certificate of registration and license plates are under an order of impoundment, pursuant to this section, may confiscate the license, certificate of registration, and license plates, and return them to the registrar.

(b) Any peace officer who, in the performance of the peace officer's duties as authorized by law, becomes aware of a person whose license is under an order of suspension, or whose certificate of registration and license plates are under an order of impoundment resulting from failure to respond to a financial responsibility random verification, shall not, for that reason, arrest the owner or operator or seize the vehicle or license plates. Instead, the peace officer shall issue a citation for a violation of section 4510.16 of the Revised Code



specifying the circumstances as failure to respond to a 227  
financial responsibility random verification. 228

(2) A peace officer shall request the owner or operator of 229  
a motor vehicle to produce proof of financial responsibility in 230  
a manner described in division (G) of this section at the time 231  
the peace officer acts to enforce the traffic laws of this state 232  
and during motor vehicle inspections conducted pursuant to 233  
section 4513.02 of the Revised Code. 234

(3) A peace officer shall indicate on every traffic ticket 235  
whether the person receiving the traffic ticket produced proof 236  
of the maintenance of financial responsibility in response to 237  
the officer's request under division (D) (2) of this section. The 238  
peace officer shall inform every person who receives a traffic 239  
ticket and who has failed to produce proof of the maintenance of 240  
financial responsibility that the person must submit proof to 241  
the traffic violations bureau with any payment of a fine and 242  
costs for the ticketed violation or, if the person is to appear 243  
in court for the violation, the person must submit proof to the 244  
court. 245

(4) (a) If a person who has failed to produce proof of the 246  
maintenance of financial responsibility appears in court for a 247  
ticketed violation, the court may permit the defendant to 248  
present evidence of proof of financial responsibility to the 249  
court at such time and in such manner as the court determines to 250  
be necessary or appropriate. In a manner prescribed by the 251  
registrar, the clerk of courts shall provide the registrar with 252  
the identity of any person who fails to submit proof of the 253  
maintenance of financial responsibility pursuant to division (D) 254  
(3) of this section. 255

(b) If a person who has failed to produce proof of the 256

maintenance of financial responsibility also fails to submit 257  
that proof to the traffic violations bureau with payment of a 258  
fine and costs for the ticketed violation, the traffic 259  
violations bureau, in a manner prescribed by the registrar, 260  
shall notify the registrar of the identity of that person. 261

(5) (a) Upon receiving notice from a clerk of courts or 262  
traffic violations bureau pursuant to division (D) (4) of this 263  
section, the registrar shall order the suspension of the license 264  
of the person required under division (A) (2) (a), (b), or (c) of 265  
this section and the impoundment of the person's certificate of 266  
registration and license plates required under division (A) (2) 267  
(d) of this section, effective thirty days after the date of the 268  
mailing of notification. The registrar also shall notify the 269  
person that the person must present the registrar with proof of 270  
financial responsibility in accordance with this section, 271  
surrender to the registrar the person's certificate of 272  
registration, license plates, and license, or submit a statement 273  
subject to section 2921.13 of the Revised Code that the person 274  
did not operate or permit the operation of the motor vehicle at 275  
the time of the offense. Notification shall be in writing and 276  
shall be sent to the person at the person's last known address 277  
as shown on the records of the bureau of motor vehicles. The 278  
person, within fifteen days after the date of the mailing of 279  
notification, shall present proof of financial responsibility, 280  
surrender the certificate of registration, license plates, and 281  
license to the registrar in a manner set forth in division (A) 282  
(4) of this section, or submit the statement required under this 283  
section together with other information the person considers 284  
appropriate. 285

If the registrar does not receive proof or the person does 286  
not surrender the certificate of registration, license plates, 287

and license, in accordance with this division, the registrar 288  
shall permit the order for the suspension of the license of the 289  
person and the impoundment of the person's certificate of 290  
registration and license plates to take effect. 291

(b) In the case of a person who presents, within the 292  
fifteen-day period, proof of financial responsibility, the 293  
registrar shall terminate the order of suspension and the 294  
impoundment of the registration and license plates required 295  
under division (A) (2) (d) of this section and shall send written 296  
notification to the person, at the person's last known address 297  
as shown on the records of the bureau. 298

(c) Any person adversely affected by the order of the 299  
registrar under division (D) (5) (a) or (b) of this section, 300  
within ten days after the issuance of the order, may request an 301  
administrative hearing before the registrar, who shall provide 302  
the person with an opportunity for a hearing in accordance with 303  
this paragraph. A request for a hearing does not operate as a 304  
suspension of the order. The scope of the hearing shall be 305  
limited to whether, at the time of the hearing, the person 306  
presents proof of financial responsibility covering the vehicle 307  
and whether the person is eligible for an exemption in 308  
accordance with this section or any rule adopted under it. The 309  
registrar shall determine the date, time, and place of any 310  
hearing; provided, that the hearing shall be held, and an order 311  
issued or findings made, within thirty days after the registrar 312  
receives a request for a hearing. If requested by the person in 313  
writing, the registrar may designate as the place of hearing the 314  
county seat of the county in which the person resides or a place 315  
within fifty miles of the person's residence. Such person shall 316  
pay the cost of the hearing before the registrar, if the 317  
registrar's order of suspension or impoundment under division 318

(D) (5) (a) or (b) of this section is upheld.	319
(6) A peace officer may charge an owner or operator of a motor vehicle with a violation of section 4510.16 of the Revised Code when the owner or operator fails to show proof of the maintenance of financial responsibility pursuant to a peace officer's request under division (D) (2) of this section, if a check of the owner or operator's driving record indicates that the owner or operator, at the time of the operation of the motor vehicle, is required to file and maintain proof of financial responsibility under section 4509.45 of the Revised Code for a previous violation of this chapter.	320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329
(7) Any forms used by law enforcement agencies in administering this section shall be prescribed, supplied, and paid for by the registrar.	330 331 332
(8) 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.	333 334 335 336 337
(9) As used in this section, "peace officer" has the meaning set forth in section 2935.01 of the Revised Code.	338 339
(E) All fees, except court costs, fees paid to a deputy registrar, and those portions of the financial responsibility reinstatement fees as otherwise specified in this division, collected under this section shall be paid into the state treasury to the credit of the public safety - highway purposes fund established in section 4501.06 of the Revised Code and used to cover costs incurred by the bureau in the administration of this section and sections 4503.20, 4507.212, and 4509.81 of the	340 341 342 343 344 345 346 347

Revised Code, and by any law enforcement agency employing any 348  
peace officer who returns any license, certificate of 349  
registration, and license plates to the registrar pursuant to 350  
division (C) of this section. 351

Of each financial responsibility reinstatement fee the 352  
registrar collects pursuant to division (A) (5) (a) of this 353  
section or receives from a deputy registrar under division (A) 354  
(5) (d) of this section, the registrar shall deposit twenty-five 355  
dollars of each one-hundred-dollar reinstatement fee, ~~fifty-~~ 356  
~~dollars of each three hundred-dollar reinstatement fee, and one-~~ 357  
~~hundred dollars of each six hundred-dollar reinstatement fee-~~ 358  
into the state treasury to the credit of the indigent defense 359  
support fund created by section 120.08 of the Revised Code. 360

(F) Chapter 119. of the Revised Code applies to this 361  
section only to the extent that any provision in that chapter is 362  
not clearly inconsistent with this section. 363

(G) (1) (a) The registrar, court, traffic violations bureau, 364  
or peace officer may require proof of financial responsibility 365  
to be demonstrated by use of a standard form prescribed by the 366  
registrar. If the use of a standard form is not required, a 367  
person may demonstrate proof of financial responsibility under 368  
this section by presenting to the traffic violations bureau, 369  
court, registrar, or peace officer any of the following 370  
documents or a copy of the documents: 371

(i) A financial responsibility identification card as 372  
provided in section 4509.103 of the Revised Code; 373

(ii) A certificate of proof of financial responsibility on 374  
a form provided and approved by the registrar for the filing of 375  
an accident report required to be filed under section 4509.06 of 376

the Revised Code;	377
(iii) A policy of liability insurance, a declaration page	378
of a policy of liability insurance, or liability bond, if the	379
policy or bond complies with section 4509.20 or sections 4509.49	380
to 4509.61 of the Revised Code;	381
(iv) A bond or certification of the issuance of a bond as	382
provided in section 4509.59 of the Revised Code;	383
(v) A certificate of deposit of money or securities as	384
provided in section 4509.62 of the Revised Code;	385
(vi) A certificate of self-insurance as provided in	386
section 4509.72 of the Revised Code.	387
(b) A person also may present proof of financial	388
responsibility under this section to the traffic violations	389
bureau, court, registrar, or peace officer through use of an	390
electronic wireless communications device as specified under	391
section 4509.103 of the Revised Code.	392
(2) If a person fails to demonstrate proof of financial	393
responsibility in a manner described in division (G)(1) of this	394
section, the person may demonstrate proof of financial	395
responsibility under this section by any other method that the	396
court or the bureau, by reason of circumstances in a particular	397
case, may consider appropriate.	398
(3) A motor carrier certificated by the interstate	399
commerce commission or by the public utilities commission may	400
demonstrate proof of financial responsibility by providing a	401
statement designating the motor carrier's operating authority	402
and averring that the insurance coverage required by the	403
certificating authority is in full force and effect.	404

(4) (a) A finding by the registrar or court that a person 405  
is covered by proof of financial responsibility in the form of 406  
an insurance policy or surety bond is not binding upon the named 407  
insurer or surety or any of its officers, employees, agents, or 408  
representatives and has no legal effect except for the purpose 409  
of administering this section. 410

(b) The preparation and delivery of a financial 411  
responsibility identification card or any other document 412  
authorized to be used as proof of financial responsibility and 413  
the generation and delivery of proof of financial responsibility 414  
to an electronic wireless communications device that is 415  
displayed on the device as text or images does not do any of the 416  
following: 417

(i) Create any liability or estoppel against an insurer or 418  
surety, or any of its officers, employees, agents, or 419  
representatives; 420

(ii) Constitute an admission of the existence of, or of 421  
any liability or coverage under, any policy or bond; 422

(iii) Waive any defenses or counterclaims available to an 423  
insurer, surety, agent, employee, or representative in an action 424  
commenced by an insured or third-party claimant upon a cause of 425  
action alleged to have arisen under an insurance policy or 426  
surety bond or by reason of the preparation and delivery of a 427  
document for use as proof of financial responsibility or the 428  
generation and delivery of proof of financial responsibility to 429  
an electronic wireless communications device. 430

(c) Whenever it is determined by a final judgment in a 431  
judicial proceeding that an insurer or surety, which has been 432  
named on a document or displayed on an electronic wireless 433

communications device accepted by a court or the registrar as 434  
proof of financial responsibility covering the operation of a 435  
motor vehicle at the time of an accident or offense, is not 436  
liable to pay a judgment for injuries or damages resulting from 437  
such operation, the registrar, notwithstanding any previous 438  
contrary finding, shall forthwith suspend the operating 439  
privileges and registration rights of the person against whom 440  
the judgment was rendered as provided in division (A) (2) of this 441  
section. 442

(H) In order for any document or display of text or images 443  
on an electronic wireless communications device described in 444  
division (G) (1) of this section to be used for the demonstration 445  
of proof of financial responsibility under this section, the 446  
document or words or images shall state the name of the insured 447  
or obligor, the name of the insurer or surety company, and the 448  
effective and expiration dates of the financial responsibility, 449  
and designate by explicit description or by appropriate 450  
reference all motor vehicles covered which may include a 451  
reference to fleet insurance coverage. 452

(I) For purposes of this section, "owner" does not include 453  
a licensed motor vehicle leasing dealer as defined in section 454  
4517.01 of the Revised Code, but does include a motor vehicle 455  
renting dealer as defined in section 4549.65 of the Revised 456  
Code. Nothing in this section or in section 4509.51 of the 457  
Revised Code shall be construed to prohibit a motor vehicle 458  
renting dealer from entering into a contractual agreement with a 459  
person whereby the person renting the motor vehicle agrees to be 460  
solely responsible for maintaining proof of financial 461  
responsibility, in accordance with this section, with respect to 462  
the operation, maintenance, or use of the motor vehicle during 463  
the period of the motor vehicle's rental. 464



(J) The purpose of this section is to require the 465  
maintenance of proof of financial responsibility with respect to 466  
the operation of motor vehicles on the highways of this state, 467  
so as to minimize those situations in which persons are not 468  
compensated for injuries and damages sustained in motor vehicle 469  
accidents. The general assembly finds that this section contains 470  
reasonable civil penalties and procedures for achieving this 471  
purpose. 472

(K) Nothing in this section shall be construed to be 473  
subject to section 4509.78 of the Revised Code. 474

(L) (1) The registrar may terminate any suspension imposed 475  
under this section and not require the owner to comply with 476  
divisions (A) (5) (a), (b), and (c) of this section if the 477  
registrar with or without a hearing determines that the owner of 478  
the vehicle has established by clear and convincing evidence 479  
that all of the following apply: 480

(a) The owner customarily maintains proof of financial 481  
responsibility. 482

(b) Proof of financial responsibility was not in effect 483  
for the vehicle on the date in question for one of the following 484  
reasons: 485

(i) The vehicle was inoperable. 486

(ii) The vehicle is operated only seasonally, and the date 487  
in question was outside the season of operation. 488

(iii) A person other than the vehicle owner or driver was 489  
at fault for the lapse of proof of financial responsibility 490  
through no fault of the owner or driver. 491

(iv) The lapse of proof of financial responsibility was 492

caused by excusable neglect under circumstances that are not 493  
likely to recur and do not suggest a purpose to evade the 494  
requirements of this chapter. 495

(2) The registrar may grant an owner or driver relief for 496  
a reason specified in division (L)(1)(b)(i) or (ii) of this 497  
section whenever the owner or driver is randomly selected to 498  
verify the existence of proof of financial responsibility for 499  
such a vehicle. However, the registrar may grant an owner or 500  
driver relief for a reason specified in division (L)(1)(b)(iii) 501  
or (iv) of this section only if the owner or driver has not 502  
previously been granted relief under division (L)(1)(b)(iii) or 503  
(iv) of this section. 504

(M) The registrar shall adopt rules in accordance with 505  
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code that are necessary to 506  
administer and enforce this section. The rules shall include 507  
procedures for the surrender of license plates upon failure to 508  
maintain proof of financial responsibility and provisions 509  
relating to reinstatement of registration rights, acceptable 510  
forms of proof of financial responsibility, the use of an 511  
electronic wireless communications device to present proof of 512  
financial responsibility, and verification of the existence of 513  
financial responsibility during the period of registration. 514

(N)(1) When a person utilizes an electronic wireless 515  
communications device to present proof of financial 516  
responsibility, only the evidence of financial responsibility 517  
displayed on the device shall be viewed by the registrar, peace 518  
officer, employee or official of the traffic violations bureau, 519  
or the court. No other content of the device shall be viewed for 520  
purposes of obtaining proof of financial responsibility. 521

(2) When a person provides an electronic wireless 522

communications device to the registrar, a peace officer, an 523  
employee or official of a traffic violations bureau, or the 524  
court, the person assumes the risk of any resulting damage to 525  
the device unless the registrar, peace officer, employee, or 526  
official, or court personnel purposely, knowingly, or recklessly 527  
commits an action that results in damage to the device. 528

(O) A suspension of a driver's license under this section 529  
shall be concurrent with any other period of suspension imposed 530  
by the bureau of motor vehicles or any court. 531

**Section 2.** That existing section 4509.101 of the Revised 532  
Code is hereby repealed. 533

**Section 3.** (A) As used in this section: 534

(1) "Eligible offense" means an offense under any of the 535  
following Revised Code sections when the offense is a 536  
misdemeanor and if the offense, an essential element of the 537  
offense, the basis of the charge, or any underlying offense did 538  
not involve a deadly weapon: 2907.24, 2913.02, 2919.22, 2923.01, 539  
2925.03, 2925.04, 2925.11, 2925.12, 2925.13, 2925.14, 2925.141, 540  
2925.31, 2925.32, 2925.36, 2925.37, 2935.27, 4507.16, 4507.20, 541  
4509.101, 4509.17, 4509.24, 4509.40, 4510.037, 4510.05, 4510.06, 542  
4510.11, 4510.12, 4510.14, 4510.15, 4510.21, 4510.22, 4510.23, 543  
4511.19, 4511.194, 4511.203, 4511.205, 4511.251, 4511.75, 544  
4549.02, 4549.021, and 5743.99. 545

(2) "Deadly weapon" has the same meaning as in section 546  
2923.11 of the Revised Code. 547

(3) "Driver's license or permit" does not include a 548  
commercial driver's license or permit. 549

(B) Not later than July 1, 2019, the Lima Municipal Court 550  
of Allen County, in conjunction with the Registrar of Motor 551

Vehicles, shall establish a pilot program to waive a portion of 552  
eligible applicants' driver's license reinstatement and court 553  
fees. The Court shall entitle the pilot program the State- 554  
assisted Financial Compromise Program. The Program shall 555  
terminate on December 31, 2019. 556

(C) (1) During the period the Program is in operation, a 557  
person may apply to the Court to participate in the Program. 558

(2) To be eligible to participate in the Program, the 559  
person shall demonstrate all of the following: 560

(a) The person's driver's license or permit is currently 561  
suspended as a result of an eligible offense or offenses. 562

(b) The person has completed all other Court-ordered or 563  
Registrar-required sanctions related to the eligible offense or 564  
offenses, except for the complete payment of driver's license 565  
reinstatement and court fees necessary for driver's license 566  
reinstatement. 567

(c) The person owes at least one thousand dollars in 568  
reinstatement and court fees related to the eligible offense or 569  
offenses. 570

(3) An applicant shall submit to the Court with the 571  
application documentation demonstrating that the applicant meets 572  
the eligibility requirements. 573

(D) (1) Upon receipt of the the application, the Court 574  
shall request the applicant's abstract from the Bureau of Motor 575  
Vehicles. Not later than seven days after the Court requests the 576  
abstract, the Bureau shall provide the abstract as requested 577  
with a statement indicating any remaining requirements imposed 578  
by the Registrar for driver's license reinstatement. 579

(2) If the abstract indicates that the applicant's driver's license or permit has been suspended by another court, the Lima Municipal Court shall request the case abstract from the other court and any other information necessary to determine if there are any other remaining requirements imposed by the other court for driver's license reinstatement.

(E) The Court shall review the information received under divisions (C) and (D) of this section and shall determine whether the applicant is eligible to participate in the Program. The Court shall do one of the following not later than seventy days after the date on which the information is received:

(1) If the Court determines that the applicant is eligible, notify the applicant in writing that the applicant shall pay five hundred dollars of the applicant's reinstatement and court fee balance to the Court.

If the applicant fails to pay the required amount within a time period determined by the Court, the applicant may reapply to the Court for participation in the Program. The applicant shall not reapply for participation more than once during the time period in which the Program is in operation.

(2) If the Court determines that the applicant is not eligible, notify the applicant in writing of that determination. A letter of ineligibility does not prohibit that person from reapplying. However, the person shall not reapply for participation more than once during the time period in which the Program is in operation.

(F) The Court shall provide for the assignment of Court costs and fees paid under division (E) (1) of this section in the manner provided in section 2949.111 of the Revised Code. If the

payment involves more than one case, the Court shall determine 609  
to which case or cases the payment applies. 610

(G) The Court shall issue an order reinstating the 611  
applicant's driver's license and waiving any remaining 612  
reinstatement and court fees owed by the applicant if the 613  
applicant has fulfilled all obligations required under division 614  
(E) (1) of this section. 615

(H) The Court shall conduct a public service announcement 616  
regarding the Program that includes a description of the Program 617  
and its requirements. In addition, the Court shall make such 618  
information available on its web site. 619

(I) The Court shall establish any additional requirements, 620  
conditions, or procedures necessary to administer and implement 621  
this section. 622

(J) Not later than ninety days after termination of the 623  
Program, the Court shall submit a report to the Speaker of the 624  
House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, and the 625  
Ohio Supreme Court, detailing the effects of the Program. 626

**Section 4.** All items in this section are hereby 627  
appropriated as designated out of any moneys in the state 628  
treasury to the credit of the designated fund. For all 629  
appropriations made in this act, those in the first column are 630  
for fiscal year 2020 and those in the second column are for 631  
fiscal year 2021. The appropriations made in this act are in 632  
addition to any other appropriations made for the FY 2020-FY 633  
2021 biennium. 634

DPS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY 635

Dedicated Purpose Fund Group 636

5US0	762322	Driver's License			637
		Restoration	\$ 50,000	\$ 0	638
TOTAL DPF Dedicated Purpose Fund					639
Group			\$ 50,000	\$ 0	640
TOTAL ALL BUDGET FUND GROUPS			\$ 50,000	\$ 0	641

DRIVER'S LICENSE RESTORATION 642

On July 1, 2019, or as soon as possible thereafter, the 643  
Director of Budget and Management shall transfer \$50,000 cash 644  
from the General Revenue Fund to the Driver's License 645  
Restoration Fund (Fund 5US0), which is hereby created in the 646  
state treasury. 647

For every eligible applicant for the State-assisted 648  
Financial Compromise Program that pays the required \$500 to the 649  
Lima Municipal Court pursuant by Section 3 of this act, the 650  
Bureau of Motor Vehicles may use \$500 of the foregoing 651  
appropriation item 762322, Driver's License Restoration, to 652  
support operations of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. 653

**Section 5.** Within the limits set forth in this act, the 654  
Director of Budget and Management shall establish accounts 655  
indicating the source and amount of funds for each appropriation 656  
made in this act, and shall determine the form and manner in 657  
which appropriation accounts shall be maintained. Expenditures 658  
from appropriations contained in this act shall be accounted for 659  
as though made in the main operating appropriations act of the 660  
133rd General Assembly. 661

The appropriations made in this act are subject to all 662  
provisions of the main operating appropriations act of the 133rd 663  
General Assembly that are generally applicable to such 664  
appropriations. 665