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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
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Legislative Budget
Office

H.B. 286
133rd General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 286's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Reported by House Transportation and Public Safety

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Lipps

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- Because eligibility for the existing “Freemason” license plate is broadened, additional license plates might be issued. Each new set of plates issued costs the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) \$4.10. For each new or renewed plate, the BMV collects a \$10 administrative fee and a \$15 contribution for the Charitable Foundation of the Grand Lodge of Ohio.
- The bill has no direct fiscal effect on the state’s political subdivisions.

Detailed Analysis

The bill eliminates the requirement that a person be in good standing of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio in order to obtain the license plate, which in effect makes it available to all persons with an eligible vehicle registered in Ohio. The bill also establishes a \$15 contribution to be paid to the Charitable Foundation of the Grand Lodge of Ohio for scholarship purposes. Under current law, there is no required contribution.

In calendar year 2018, the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) reported 5,178 “Freemason” license plate transactions, involving either the purchase or renewal of a set of license plates. This suggests that, subsequent to the bill’s effective date, the required contribution may generate at least \$77,670 (5,178 x \$15) annually for the Charitable Foundation of the Grand Lodge of Ohio.

The bill’s broadening of applicants to include all persons with an eligible vehicle registered in Ohio means that additional “Freemason” license plates might be issued. Each new set of plates issued costs the BMV \$4.10. For each new or renewed plate, the BMV collects a \$10 administrative fee and a \$15 contribution to be distributed to the Charitable Foundation of the Grand Lodge of Ohio.