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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments

(This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the Senate Floor.)

H.B. 338 of the 134th General Assembly

Senate Transportation

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Motorcycle safety and education programs¹

- Requires the Director of DPS to evaluate all private motorcycle safety and education programs (in addition to the state's program, Motorcycle Ohio) every two years, including inspecting their facilities, equipment, training course, curriculum, and procedures used in the instruction courses.
- Authorizes the Director to suspend or revoke the authorization for a private program that fails to maintain the curriculum, standards, and any other requirements specified during its initial authorization.
- Charges a \$175 fee for the two-year evaluation.
- Specifies that the \$400 fee for initial authorization of a private motorcycle safety and education program applies only to programs authorized after the bill's effective date.
- Requires all of the bill's fees and any tuition fees collected for Motorcycle Ohio to be deposited into the existing Motorcycle Safety and Education Fund.

BMV fees²

- Names the fee that the Registrar of Motor Vehicles is authorized to establish and charge for BMV services that use electronic, digital, online, or similar formats as a "convenience fee."
- Specifies that a convenience fee may be itemized separately from all other BMV taxes and fees.

¹ R.C. 4501.13 and 4508.08.

² R.C. 4501.025, 4507.112, and 4507.24.

- Requires all convenience fees collected by the Registrar to be deposited into the existing Public Safety – Highway Purposes Fund.
- Prohibits the Registrar or deputy registrar from charging a convenience fee if a convenience fee is already authorized for the specific BMV service provided.
- Authorizes a motor vehicle seller (in a noncasual sale) to pass along the cost of the convenience fee to a motor vehicle buyer.
- Authorizes the Director of DPS to adopt rules establishing fees that a third party authorized to administer the driver's license skills test may charge to driver's license applicants.
- Expressly authorizes the third party to charge a fee for the administration of the skills test if the Director does not adopt rules establishing the amount of the fee, but prohibits the fee from exceeding the cost to administer the skills test.
- Corrects an inconsistency in current law pertaining to the deputy registrar fee charged for a driver's license in which that fee is combined with the vision-screening fee.

CDL temporary instruction permit knowledge test waiver³

- Requires the Registrar to adopt rules authorizing the waiver of the knowledge test, which is generally required for obtaining a commercial driver's license (CDL) temporary instruction permit, for specified current and former military service members, in accordance with the federal regulations that authorize the waiver.
- Corrects an outdated reference to federal law related to the waiver of the skills test for specified current and former military service members who apply for a CDL.

Regional Transit Authorities⁴

- Allows a regional transit authority (RTA) to issue revenue bonds supported by the proceeds of the RTA's sales tax.
- Expands the scope of activities available to an RTA with territory that includes a county with a population of at least 1.3 million, i.e., the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA).

Toll violations between states⁵

- Allows the Governor or the Governor's designee, in consultation with the Director of DPS, to enter into reciprocal agreements with other states regarding the enforcement of motor vehicle toll violations.

³ R.C. 4506.06 and 4506.09.

⁴ R.C. 306.354 and 306.37.

⁵ R.C. 5501.441.

- Specifies that the agreement must include, as one enforcement mechanism for such toll violations, the refusal of an application for or refusal of the transfer of a motor vehicle registration.

Brent Spence Bridge Project⁶

- Authorizes the Director of Transportation to award design/build contracts up to a total of \$1.5 billion with respect to an Ohio River bridge project (i.e., the Brent Spence Bridge Project).
- Requires the Director to apply to the Controlling Board if the contracts will exceed the \$1.5 billion threshold.
- Authorizes the Director to compensate not more than three bidders for preparation of a responsive preliminary design concept for the project.
- Specifies that the contracting authority granted by the bill is for purposes of applying for federal funding, and any subsequent awards of that funding would need approval by the General Assembly for specific appropriations.

Appropriations⁷

- Appropriates supplemental federal funding to the Highway Operating Fund.
- Modifies the funding mechanism for a Department of Natural Resources capital project.
- Makes appropriations for the departments of Natural Resources, Public Safety, Veterans Services, and the Ohio History Connection.

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⁶ R.C. 5517.011.

⁷ Sections 3 through 11.