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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
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Office

H.B. 345
133rd General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 345's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Jones

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Maggie West, Senior Budget Analyst

The bill has no direct fiscal effect on the state or its political subdivisions. It establishes procedures for the owner of a towing service or storage facility to obtain a certificate of title for unclaimed motor vehicles that were towed and placed into storage pursuant to an order by law enforcement. Under current law, the county sheriff or local police chief is the only entity that can obtain the title to such a vehicle. Typically, law enforcement processes the required affidavit with the clerk of courts affirming that all requirements to take the title have been met, and assigns the title to the tower or storage facility. If the county sheriff or local police chief does not take this action, the vehicle cannot be disposed of since there are no other remedies available to towing companies and storage facilities.

The bill does not affect unclaimed motor vehicles ordered into storage by law enforcement at publically operated impound lots since those facilities are typically operated by law enforcement and, as previously mentioned, they currently have the ability to obtain the title for unclaimed vehicles. There are currently no publically operated towing companies.