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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
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Legislative Budget
Office

H.B. 434
136th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 434's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Reported by House Transportation

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Willis and Lampton

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- Related to military-related limited term driver's licenses, the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) may incur minimal one-time costs to establish a form for certain limited term driver's license applicants to attest that they qualify for the bill's driver education exemption. The bill is not expected to have a discernible impact on county auditors and clerks of a court of common pleas that currently serve as a deputy registrar.
- Related to the expansion of the Drones for First Responders Pilot Program, county and township first responders will now be eligible to apply for funding made previously available under H.B. 96, the main operating budget of the 136th General Assembly. H.B. 96 provided \$2.5 million in FY 2026 under GRF appropriation line item 772456, Unmanned Aerial Systems Center, to administer the program and provide funding to eligible first responders within municipal corporations.

Detailed Analysis

Military-related limited term driver's licenses

The bill exempts certain military-related limited term driver's license applicants from driver education requirements, thus allowing certain foreign government officials and contractors associated with the United States military or with the United States Department of Defense or any of its subordinate agencies to drive in Ohio without having to complete the state's driver education requirements. The driver education requirements, which include successful completion of the full driver training course and 50 hours of practice driving accompanied by a licensed adult prior to the first issuance of a limited term driver's license, were enacted in H.B. 54 of the 136th General Assembly and took effect June 30, 2025. Prior to that date, limited term driver's license applicants were generally not required to complete driver's training.

Deputy registrars

The bill will not impact the number of applications received for a limited term driver's license by deputy registrars, including deputy registrar locations in which a county auditor or clerk of a court of common pleas has been awarded a contract to serve as a deputy registrar.¹ Any potential reduction in administrative work from not having to verify driver education requirements for these deputy registrars will likely be offset by having to verify an applicant's eligibility for the driver education exemption. The number of limited term license applicants impacted by the bill is expected to be very small.

Bureau of Motor Vehicles

The Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) may incur minimal one-time costs to establish a form for certain limited term driver's license applicants to attest to their relationship with the United States military or the United States Department of Defense or any of its subordinate agencies to qualify for the bill's driver education requirement exemption.

Drones for First Responders Pilot Program

The bill includes county and township first responders as those eligible to apply for funding under the Drones for First Responders Pilot Program. The pilot program provides funding for the acquisition of unmanned aerial vehicle systems for first responders, training, obtaining necessary Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) approvals, and integrating related infrastructure. H.B. 96, the main operating budget of the 136th General Assembly, provided \$2.5 million in FY 2026 under GRF appropriation line item 772456, Unmanned Aerial Systems Center, for the Ohio Department of Transportation to administer the program and distribute funding to eligible applicants. Under H.B. 96, only first responders within municipal corporations qualified for these grants.

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¹ As of August 13, 2025, the Department of Public Safety reported a total of 22 counties that were served by a county auditor or a clerk of a court of common pleas. Those counties include Butler, Champaign, Erie, Fayette, Franklin, Gallia, Guernsey, Harrison, Holmes, Huron, Jackson, Jefferson, Lorain, Mahoning, Meigs, Montgomery, Noble, Perry, Summit, Trumbull, Vinton, and Wyandot.