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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

**H.B. 713**  
**134<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**

## Bill Analysis

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primary Sponsor:** Rep. Ginter

Margaret E. Marcy, Attorney

### SUMMARY

- Requires the Director of Transportation and local authorities to issue special regional heavy hauling permits within every county bordering Pennsylvania.

### DETAILED ANALYSIS

#### Special regional heavy hauling permits

##### Background

Under current law, a person may apply to the Director (for state highways) or a local authority (for highways within the authority's jurisdiction) for a special regional heavy hauling permit. The permit allows the holder to drive a vehicle or combination of vehicles that exceed the standard size or weight restrictions on any highway under the jurisdiction of the authority granting the permit. The permit does not permit travel on highways that cannot bear the excess weight.<sup>1</sup>

The special regional heavy hauling permit has taken several forms through rules adopted by the Department of Transportation (ODOT), with one of them called the "Michigan Legal Permit." The Michigan Legal Permit allows an overweight vehicle to move between specified points in Williams, Fulton, or Lucas counties in Ohio and over the Michigan border, along prescribed routes. The Michigan Legal Permit authorizes a vehicle's weight to be based on the Michigan weight law standards, while exceeding the Ohio weight law standards along the prescribed routes.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> R.C. 4513.34.

<sup>2</sup> Ohio Administrative Code 5501:2-1-01(N) and 5501:2-1-09(K).

## Pennsylvania legal permit

The bill requires the Director of Transportation and local authorities to issue special regional heavy hauling permits, at a minimum, in every county of Ohio that borders Pennsylvania (i.e., Ashtabula, Trumbull, Mahoning, and Columbiana counties). Current law requires the Director and local authorities to issue special regional heavy hauling permits, but does not specify any particular regions of the state in which they must issue those permits.<sup>3</sup>

A Pennsylvania Legal Permit would be similar to the existing Michigan Legal Permit. The permit would allow the permitted vehicles to meet the Pennsylvania weight law standards, while exceeding the Ohio weight law standards. The bill does **not** limit ODOT or local authorities to issuing special regional heavy hauling permits to only the Pennsylvania border counties. Thus, ODOT and local authorities may continue to issue special regional heavy hauling permits for the Michigan border counties and throughout all of Ohio. Finally, the bill also specifies that any fee required for the permits be reasonable.<sup>4</sup>

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## HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	08-31-22

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ANHB0713IN-134/ks

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<sup>3</sup> R.C. 4513.34(A)(1).

<sup>4</sup> R.C. 4513.34(A)(1)(a) and (b).