



ENACTMENT NEWS

Senate Bill 68 **Community service for reinstatement fees** Effective April 12, 2021

On January 7, 2021, Governor DeWine signed Senate Bill 68 (Sen. Williams) into law. The bill takes effect on April 12, 2021, and allows courts to authorize the performance of community service in lieu of license reinstatement fees.

Community service for reinstatement fees

Existing law permits a municipal or county court, upon determination that an offender is unable to reasonably pay reinstatement fees owed to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, to place the offender on a payment plan. S.B. 68 gives courts the additional option of allowing the offender to perform community service in lieu of paying the reinstatement fees. Upon completion of the service, the court is to provide the offender with proof of completion, which the offender will then present to the BMV when seeking reinstatement.

The bill further permits the registrar of the BMV to develop rules to permit indigent drivers to obtain a full waiver of reinstatement fees.

The Ohio Senate passed the bill by a vote of 32-0 on May 29, 2019, and the House passed the bill by a vote of 84-0 on December 17, 2020. The Senate concurred in House amendments by a vote of 28-3 on December 22, 2020.