

# KEY LEGISLATIVE DOCUMENTS

New Legislative Staff Training  
Ohio Legislative Service Commission



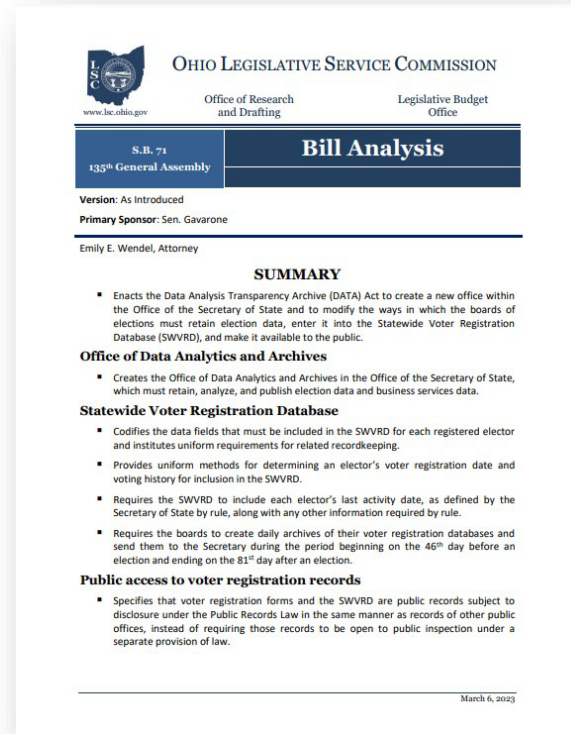
# ABOUT THIS COURSE


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- In this course, you will learn how to find and use legislative documents and publications that can help you to follow legislation and understand it more thoroughly.
- If your employer is tracking your course completion, be sure to click on the course completion link at the end of the course.

# BILL SUPPORT DOCUMENTS

As bills move through the legislative process, LSC prepares and updates bill analyses, fiscal notes, comparative synopses, and synopses of committee amendments.



 OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION  
Office of Research and Drafting      Legislative Budget Office  
www.lsc.ohio.gov

S.B. 71  
135<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

## Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced  
Primary Sponsor: Sen. Gavarone  
Emily E. Wendel, Attorney

### SUMMARY

- Enacts the Data Analysis Transparency Archive (DATA) Act to create a new office within the Office of the Secretary of State and to modify the ways in which the boards of elections must retain election data, enter it into the Statewide Voter Registration Database (SWVRD), and make it available to the public.

#### Office of Data Analytics and Archives

- Creates the Office of Data Analytics and Archives in the Office of the Secretary of State, which must retain, analyze, and publish election data and business services data.

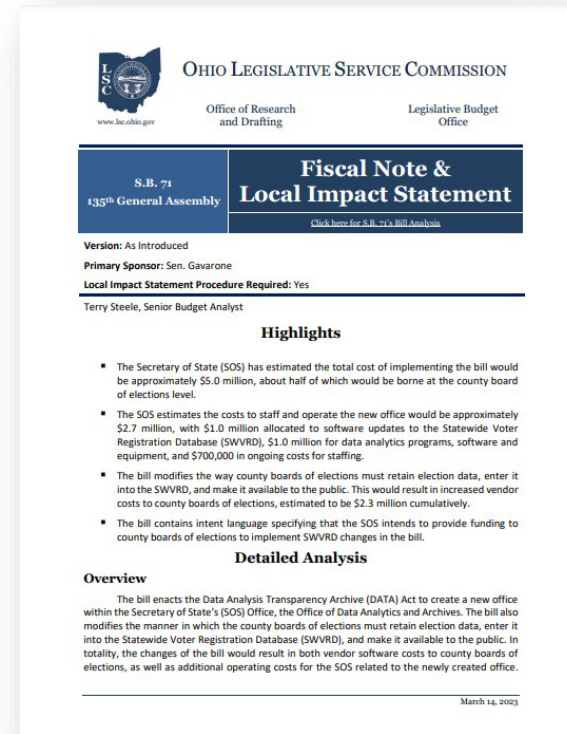
#### Statewide Voter Registration Database


- Codifies the data fields that must be included in the SWVRD for each registered elector and institutes uniform requirements for related recordkeeping.
- Provides uniform methods for determining an elector's voter registration date and voting history for inclusion in the SWVRD.
- Requires the SWVRD to include each elector's last activity date, as defined by the Secretary of State by rule, along with any other information required by rule.
- Requires the boards to create daily archives of their voter registration databases and send them to the Secretary during the period beginning on the 46<sup>th</sup> day before an election and ending on the 81<sup>st</sup> day after an election.

#### Public access to voter registration records

- Specifies that voter registration forms and the SWVRD are public records subject to disclosure under the Public Records Law in the same manner as records of other public offices, instead of requiring those records to be open to public inspection under a separate provision of law.

March 6, 2023



 OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION  
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S.B. 71  
135<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

## Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for S.B. 71's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced  
Primary Sponsor: Sen. Gavarone  
Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: Yes  
Terry Steele, Senior Budget Analyst

### Highlights

- The Secretary of State (SOS) has estimated the total cost of implementing the bill would be approximately \$5.0 million, about half of which would be borne at the county board of elections level.
- The SOS estimates the costs to staff and operate the new office would be approximately \$2.7 million, with \$1.0 million allocated to software updates to the Statewide Voter Registration Database (SWVRD), \$1.0 million for data analytics programs, software and equipment, and \$700,000 in ongoing costs for staffing.
- The bill modifies the way county boards of elections must retain election data, enter it into the SWVRD, and make it available to the public. This would result in increased vendor costs to county boards of elections, estimated to be \$2.3 million cumulatively.
- The bill contains intent language specifying that the SOS intends to provide funding to county boards of elections to implement SWVRD changes in the bill.

### Detailed Analysis

#### Overview

The bill enacts the Data Analysis Transparency Archive (DATA) Act to create a new office within the Secretary of State's (SOS) Office, the Office of Data Analytics and Archives. The bill also modifies the manner in which the county boards of elections must retain election data, enter it into the Statewide Voter Registration Database (SWVRD), and make it available to the public. In totality, the changes of the bill would result in both vendor software costs to county boards of elections, as well as additional operating costs for the SOS related to the newly created office.

March 14, 2023

# FINDING SUPPORT DOCUMENTS

To find the LSC support documents for a particular bill, pull up the bill's page on the General Assembly's website and click the Documents tab.



## Search Legislation

A screenshot of the search results page for House Bill 114. The search bar shows "General Assembly : 135th (2023-2024)" and "hb114". Below the search bar is a "Filter By:" section with dropdown menus for "Legislation Type", "Primary Sponsor", "Cosponsor", and "Committee". A blue arrow points to the "Primary Sponsor" dropdown. The main content area is titled "Legislation Text" and contains three items: "As Introduced PDF", "As Reported By House Committee PDF", and "As Passed By House PDF". Below this is an "Analysis" section with three items: "As Passed By House PDF", "As Reported By House Committee PDF", and "As Introduced PDF". The "Analysis" section is highlighted with a yellow border. At the bottom is a "Fiscal Notes" section with three items: "As Passed By House PDF", "As Reported By House Committee PDF", and "As Introduced PDF".

## Legislation Text

- As Introduced PDF
- As Reported By House Committee PDF
- As Passed By House PDF

## Analysis

- As Passed By House PDF
- As Reported By House Committee PDF
- As Introduced PDF

## Fiscal Notes

- As Passed By House PDF
- As Reported By House Committee PDF
- As Introduced PDF

## House Bill 114 Documents

- Summary
- Documents**
- Status
- Votes
- Committee Activity

Return To Search



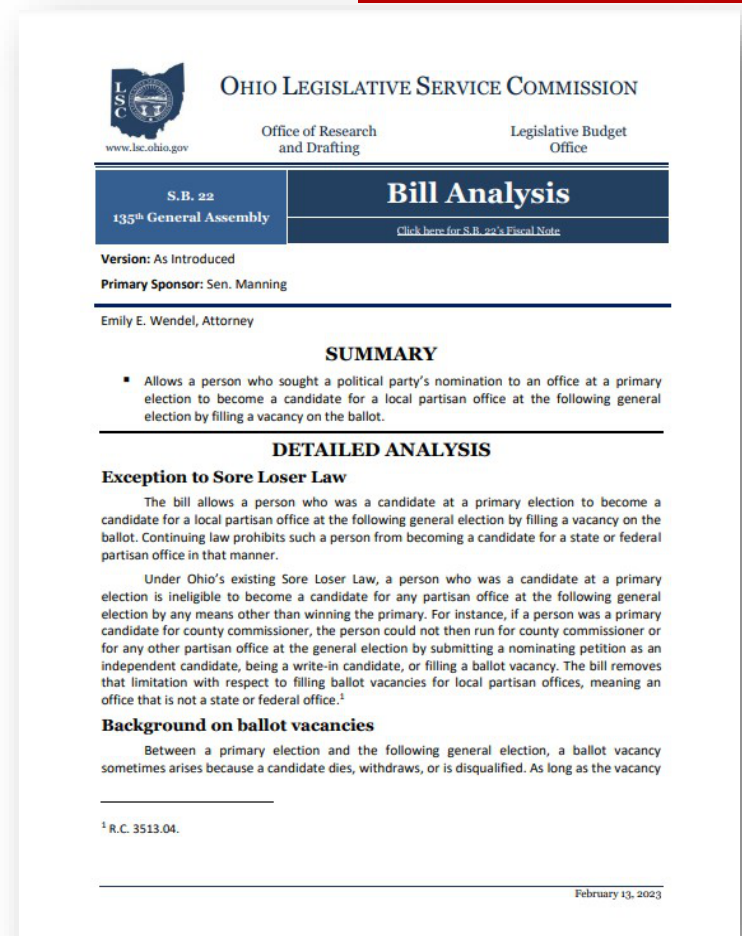
# BILL ANALYSIS

# BILL ANALYSIS

- A bill analysis describes what a bill proposes to do – how it would change the law, or what new law it proposes to enact.
- An analysis does not discuss whether the bill contains good or bad policy or if it will be effective. That is outside the scope of LSC's nonpartisan mission.
- When a bill is scheduled for its first committee hearing, LSC's Office of Research and Drafting prepares an analysis. The analysis is updated as the bill continues through the legislative process.
- An analysis may be prepared earlier upon a legislator's request.

# BILL ANALYSIS

- While there is no substitute for reading the bill itself, it is often easier to read and understand the LSC bill analysis.
- An analysis includes a summary and topic headings, and is usually organized by topic rather than by Revised Code section number.
- A longer analysis also includes a table of contents.



The screenshot shows the official page for the Bill Analysis of S.B. 22. At the top, it features the Ohio Legislative Service Commission logo and the text "OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION". Below this, it identifies the "Office of Research and Drafting" and the "Legislative Budget Office". The page is for "S.B. 22" from the "135th General Assembly". A prominent blue box contains the title "Bill Analysis" and a link to "Click here for S.B. 22's Fiscal Note". The version is listed as "As Introduced" and the primary sponsor is "Sen. Manning". The author is "Emily E. Wendel, Attorney". The page is organized into sections: "SUMMARY", "DETAILED ANALYSIS", and "Exception to Sore Loser Law". The "Exception to Sore Loser Law" section explains that the bill allows a person who was a candidate at a primary election to become a candidate for a local partisan office at the following general election by filling a vacancy on the ballot. It also notes that continuing law prohibits such a person from becoming a candidate for a state or federal partisan office in that manner. A "Background on ballot vacancies" section states that between a primary election and the following general election, a ballot vacancy sometimes arises because a candidate dies, withdraws, or is disqualified. A footnote at the bottom left cites "R.C. 3513.04". The date "February 13, 2023" is printed at the bottom right.

# KEY FEATURES OF A BILL ANALYSIS



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## OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

Bill number  
and General  
Assembly  
number

S.B. 22  
135<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

**Bill Analysis**  
[Click here for S.B. 22's Fiscal Note](#)

**Version:** As Introduced

Bill version

**Primary Sponsor:** Sen. Manning

Primary sponsor(s)

Emily E. Wendel, Attorney

LSC staffer to  
whom questions  
may be directed

### SUMMARY

Summary of the  
bill's contents

- Allows a person who sought a political party's nomination to an office at a primary election to become a candidate for a local partisan office at the following general election by filling a vacancy on the ballot.



# KEY FEATURES OF A BILL ANALYSIS

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Table of Contents,  
if the analysis is  
longer than 10 pages

Detailed analysis of what  
the bill proposes to do

## DETAILED ANALYSIS

### Exception to Sore Loser Law

The bill allows a person who was a candidate at a primary election to become a candidate for a local partisan office at the following general election by filling a vacancy on the ballot. Continuing law prohibits such a person from becoming a candidate for a state or federal partisan office in that manner.

Under Ohio's existing Sore Loser Law, a person who was a candidate at a primary election is ineligible to become a candidate for any partisan office at the following general election by any means other than winning the primary. For instance, if a person was a primary candidate for county commissioner, the person could not then run for county commissioner or for any other partisan office at the general election by submitting a nominating petition as an independent candidate, being a write-in candidate, or filling a ballot vacancy. The bill removes that limitation with respect to filling ballot vacancies for local partisan offices, meaning an office that is not a state or federal office.<sup>1</sup>

## HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	10-19-21
Reported, H. Ways & Means	12-08-21
Passed House (68-22)	12-09-21
Reported, S. Local Government & Elections	12-13-2022
Passed Senate (24-7)	12-13-2022
House concurred in Senate amendments (55-34)	12-14-2022

History of the bill's progress  
through the legislative process  
and floor vote counts

# FINAL ANALYSIS

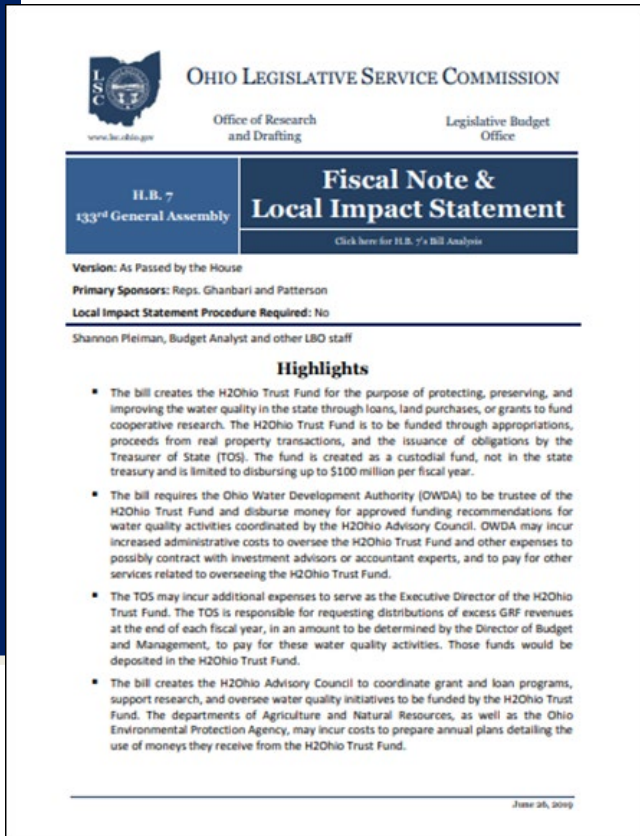
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- When the General Assembly enacts a bill, LSC prepares a final version of the analysis.
- The final analysis discusses the content of the act as it was agreed on by the two houses.
- It also contains an updated history of the act's complete progress through the legislature, including any concurrence votes.
- If the Governor vetoes the act or a part of the act, the final analysis will include information about the vetoed provisions.



# FISCAL NOTE/LOCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

# FISCAL NOTE/LOCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

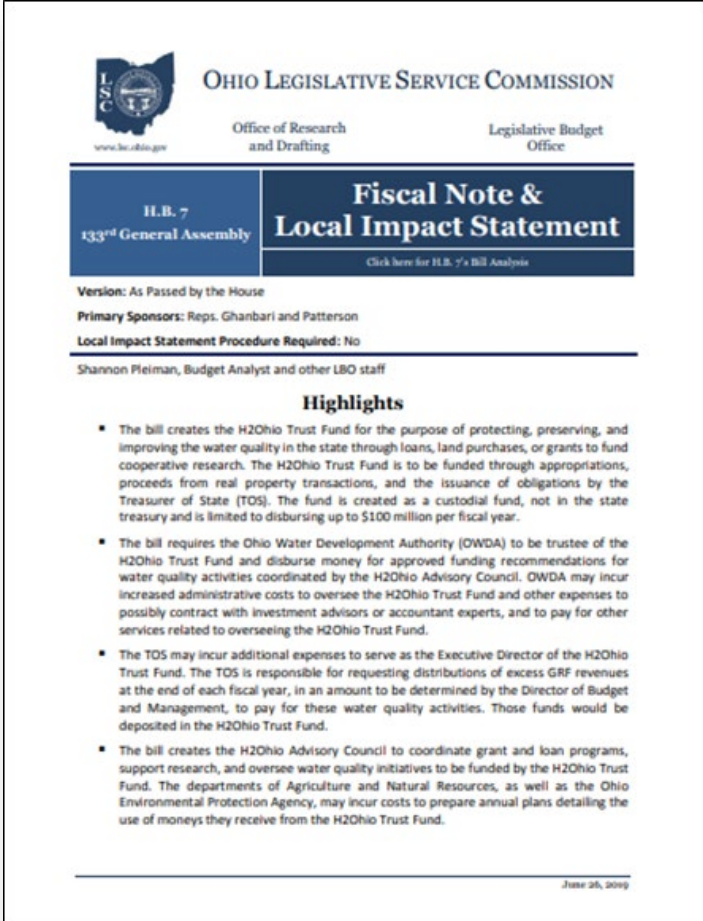


The screenshot shows the Ohio Legislative Service Commission website for H.B. 7. The header includes the Ohio state seal and the text "OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION", "Office of Research and Drafting", and "Legislative Budget Office". Below this is a blue banner with "H.B. 7" and "133rd General Assembly" on the left, and "Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement" in the center. A link "Click here for H.B. 7's Bill Analysis" is below the banner. The text "Version: As Passed by the House" and "Primary Sponsors: Reps. Ghanbari and Patterson" is shown. A note states "Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No" and lists "Shannon Fleiman, Budget Analyst and other LBO staff". A "Highlights" section contains four bullet points: 1) The bill creates the H2Ohio Trust Fund for water quality protection and research. 2) The bill requires the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) to be trustee of the H2Ohio Trust Fund. 3) The TOS may incur additional expenses to serve as the Executive Director of the H2Ohio Trust Fund. 4) The bill creates the H2Ohio Advisory Council to coordinate grant and loan programs.

- When considering a bill, legislators often ask:
  - What costs are associated with the bill?
  - Will there be a monetary impact at local levels of government?
  - Will there be any cost savings?
- Legislative Budget Office staff research these questions, determine whether Local Impact Statement procedures apply, and produce the Fiscal Note to discuss the bill's fiscal implications.

# FISCAL NOTE

- The first fiscal note for a bill discusses the As Introduced version and is generally prepared for the bill's second hearing in a standing committee of the General Assembly.
- The fiscal note is updated throughout the bill's progress.
- It may be prepared earlier than the bill's second hearing, upon a legislator's request.



The screenshot displays the Ohio Legislative Service Commission (LSC) website. At the top left is the LSC logo with the text "OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION". Below the logo are the offices: "Office of Research and Drafting" and "Legislative Budget Office". A blue navigation bar contains "H.B. 7" and "133<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly". To the right of this bar is a large blue box with the text "Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement" and a link "Click here for H.B. 7's Bill Analysis". Below the navigation bar, the text reads: "Version: As Passed by the House", "Primary Sponsors: Reps. Ghanbari and Patterson", and "Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No". A horizontal line separates this from the author information: "Shannon Freiman, Budget Analyst and other LBO staff". The "Highlights" section follows, containing four bullet points: 1) The bill creates the H2Ohio Trust Fund for water quality protection, funded through appropriations, real property transactions, and TOS obligations. 2) The bill requires the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) to be trustee of the H2Ohio Trust Fund, with increased administrative costs. 3) The TOS may incur additional expenses to serve as Executive Director of the H2Ohio Trust Fund, with distributions of excess GRF revenues determined by the Director of Budget and Management. 4) The bill creates the H2Ohio Advisory Council to coordinate grant and loan programs, support research, and oversee water quality initiatives, with costs prepared in annual plans.

June 26, 2009

# KEY FEATURES OF A FISCAL NOTE

**LSC**  
www.lsc.ohio.gov

**OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION**

Office of Research and Drafting

Legislative Budget Office

**H.B. 7**  
133<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly

**Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement**

[Click here for H.B. 7's Bill Analysis](#)

**Version:** As Passed by the House

**Primary Sponsors:** Reps. Ghanbari and Patterson

**Local Impact Statement Procedure Required:** No

Shannon Pleiman, Budget Analyst and other LBO staff

Bill number and General Assembly number

Indication (yes or no) whether the bill is subject to the Local Impact Statement procedure

Bill version

Primary sponsor(s)

LSC staffer to whom questions may be directed

# KEY FEATURES OF A FISCAL NOTE

## Highlights

- The bill creates the H2Ohio Trust Fund for the purpose of protecting, preserving, and improving the water quality in the state through loans, land purchases, or grants to fund cooperative research. The H2Ohio Trust Fund is to be funded through appropriations, proceeds from real property transactions, and the issuance of obligations by the Treasurer of State (TOS). The fund is created as a custodial fund, not in the state treasury and is limited to disbursing up to \$100 million per fiscal year.
- The bill requires the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) to be trustee of the H2Ohio Trust Fund and disburse money for approved funding recommendations for water quality activities coordinated by the H2Ohio Advisory Council. OWDA may incur increased administrative costs to oversee the H2Ohio Trust Fund and other expenses to possibly contract with investment advisors or accountant experts, and to pay for other services related to overseeing the H2Ohio Trust Fund.

Brief description of the bill's state and local fiscal highlights



## Detailed Analysis

### H2Ohio Trust Fund

The bill creates the H2Ohio Trust Fund (hereafter Trust Fund), to be funded by moneys appropriated to it, proceeds from the issuance of obligations, some proceeds from real property transactions, loan repayments, and bequests. The Trust Fund is established as a custodial fund, not in the state treasury, meaning that appropriations of the General Assembly would not be required to disburse moneys from the Trust Fund. Funds are administered by the H2Ohio Advisory Council and the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) for the purpose of protecting, preserving, and improving the water quality in the state. These purposes are to be achieved fiscally through development loans, land purchases, and grants to fund water quality research. The bill limits disbursements from the Trust Fund to \$100 million per fiscal year.

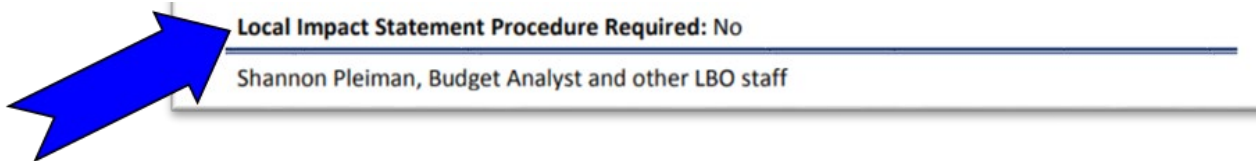
The bill allows the Trust Fund to be used for the following purposes: (1) the disbursement of funds by OWDA, (2) acquisition of real property or interests in real property by OWDA, (3) administrative expenses incurred by the H2Ohio Advisory Council and OWDA, (4) costs and expenses related to the issuance of obligations and functions of OWDA, and (5) costs and expenses related to the investment of the Trust Fund.

Details about the bill's fiscal impact



# LOCAL IMPACT STATEMENT PROCEDURE

The Local Impact Statement procedure is required if a bill's impact on any given county, municipality, township, or school district could result in net additional costs beyond a specified minimal amount that is based on population.



Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Shannon Pleiman, Budget Analyst and other LBO staff



# LOCAL IMPACT STATEMENT PROCEDURE


- By law, if the local impact statement procedure applies to a bill, the committee must have a local impact statement before reporting the bill. If the bill is amended in committee, the committee must have a revised statement.
- This requirement may be overridden by a 2/3 vote of the committee's members (not a 2/3 vote of those present).
  - See [R.C. 103.143](#)



COMPARATIVE SYNOPSIS  
AND  
SYNOPSIS OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

# COMPARATIVE SYNOPSIS

- House rules require LSC to prepare a substitute bill comparative synopsis when a House committee has accepted a substitute bill.
- The synopsis is a table that compares provisions of the substitute bill with the previous version of the bill.
- The table discusses only the differences between the bills.
- LSC prepares a comparative synopsis for use in the Senate upon request.



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**Substitute Bill Comparative Synopsis**

**Sub. H.B. 37**  
**135<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**  
 House Criminal Justice

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Margaret E. Marcy, Attorney

This table summarizes how the latest substitute version of the bill differs from the immediately preceding version. It addresses only the topics on which the two versions differ substantively. It does not list topics on which the two bills are substantively the same.

Previous Version (I_135_0127-1)	Latest Version (I_135_0127-3)
<b>OVI lookback period</b>	
Extends the lookback period for OVI-related offenses from ten years to 20 years (i.e., when determining the number of prior offenses for penalty enhancement, the court looks back 20 years from the current offense) (R.C. 1547.99, 1905.01, 2903.06, 2903.08, 2919.22, 3327.10, 4510.13, 4510.14, 4510.17, 4510.31, 4511.19, 4511.191, 4511.193, and 4511.195).	Returns the lookback period for most OVI-related offenses back to the current law ten-year period, but retains a 20-year lookback for prior offenses that enhance the penalties associated with aggravated vehicular homicide that is the proximate result of an OVI offense (R.C. 2903.06).
Grandfathers in currently employed school bus drivers, for purposes of their school bus-related driver background checks, specifying that the 20-year lookback applies only to future hires (R.C. 3327.10(I)(2)).	No provision, because of the change described above.

# SYNOPSIS OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

- When a bill is reported out of committee in the second house, both House Rules and Senate Rules require LSC to prepare a synopsis of committee amendments that summarizes any amendments adopted by the committee.
- It does not describe any floor amendments. Those appear in the appropriate Journal.
- The members of the first house may review the synopsis when deciding whether to concur with changes made to the bill by the second house.



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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

## Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments

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

**H.B. 52 of the 135<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**

**Senate Local Government**

Margaret E. Marcy, Attorney

Removes the portion of the bill that reverses H.B. 509 of the 134<sup>th</sup> General Assembly's elimination of both of the following:

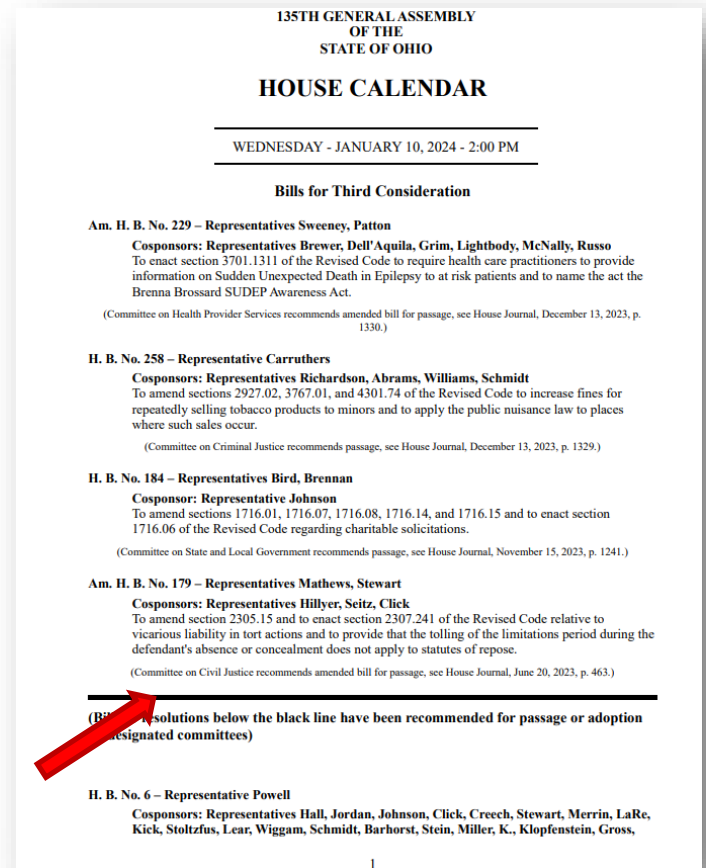
- The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Assistant Instructor Certification; and
- The Assistant Fire Instructor Certification.<sup>1</sup>



# BILL TRACKING RESOURCES

# CALENDAR

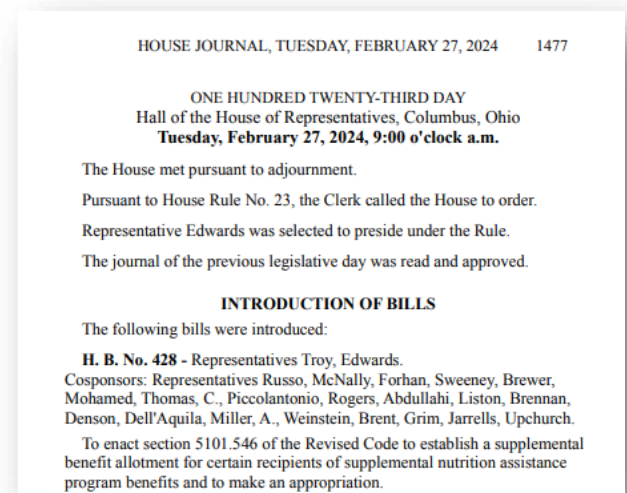
- The Calendar is the legislative agenda for a voting session of the House or Senate, prepared by the Clerk.
- The chamber’s Rules and Reference Committee decides which bills will be considered.
- Bills scheduled for a vote are listed under “Bills for Third Consideration” and appear above the thick black line.
- Concurrence votes also appear on the Calendar.
- Bills below the thick black line are not yet scheduled for a vote. They have been reported by committees and are waiting to be scheduled for a floor vote.



# JOURNAL



- The House and Senate Journals are the official records of each chamber’s legislative actions, prepared by the Clerk.
- The Journal includes:
  - Committee reports;
  - All votes on motions, amendments, and bills;
  - Messages from the other chamber and the Governor;
  - Special speeches or resolutions; and
  - Text of floor and committee amendments.
- The Journal does not include:
  - The text of any substitute bill. Check the committee’s website or ask the appropriate Clerk’s office for a copy of a substitute bill.
  - Transcripts of floor speeches or debates. Video is available from [The Ohio Channel](#).
  - Detailed legislative histories of bills.



# BILL STATUS PAGE

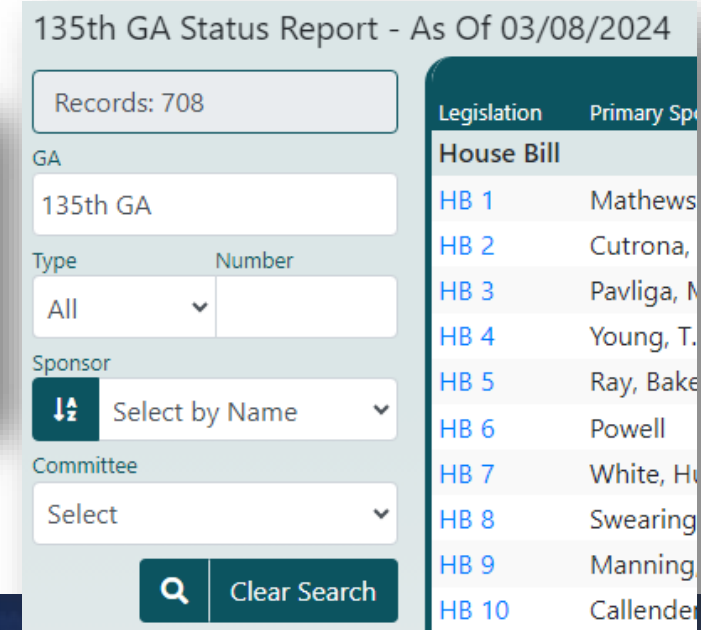
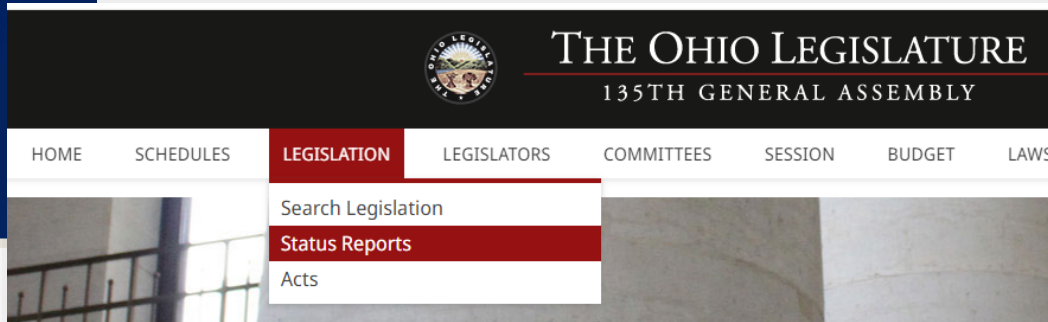
- Information about the status of each bill, as recorded in the Journal, is available on the Status tab of the bill's page on the General Assembly's website.
- The Status tab provides such information as:
  - To what committee a bill was assigned;
  - When a bill was reported out of committee; and
  - The date on which a bill was voted on in the House or Senate.



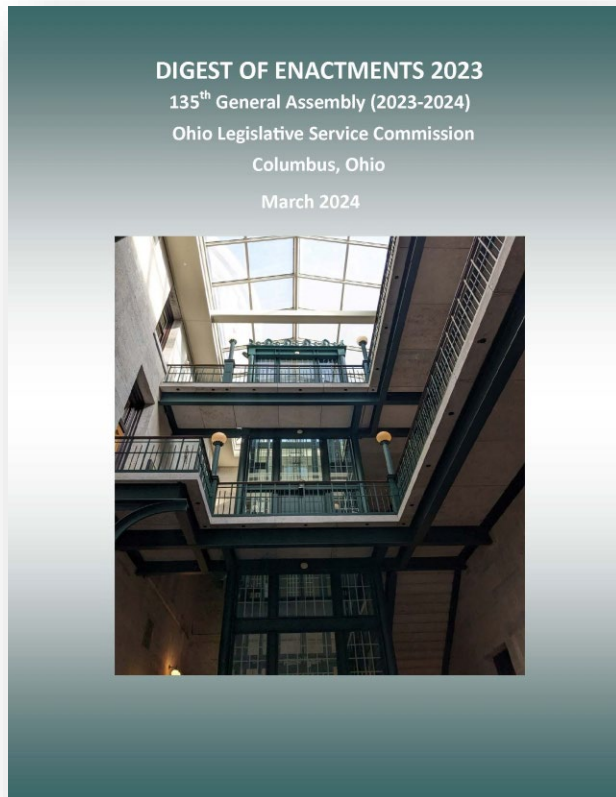


# STATUS REPORT OF LEGISLATION

- The Status Report of Legislation database shows the status of all bills and resolutions introduced in a particular General Assembly. Use the search, sort, and filter functions to create custom reports.
- Databases for earlier General Assemblies are available in PDF and Excel formats. For information from before 1983, consult the LSC Library.



# DIGEST OF ENACTMENTS



- LSC publishes an annual [Digest of Enactments](#) that provides summaries of all enacted bills, including any vetoes.
- The Digest includes legislative histories and effective dates.
- It is indexed by topic and can be especially helpful for finding all acts on a particular topic in a given time period.
- You can find the Digest on LSC's website under the Publications tab.

# HISTORICAL LEGISLATION

- Bills introduced in 1997 and later, along with support documents, are available on the General Assembly's website.
- To access documents from before 1997, consult the LSC Library.

The screenshot shows the 'Search Legislation' interface. On the left, a dropdown menu is open, displaying a list of General Assemblies from 1997 to 2026. A blue arrow points to the bottom of this list. On the right, there are search controls including a text input field labeled 'Enter keywords', a search button, and dropdown menus for 'Cosponsor' and 'Committee'. A blue arrow also points to the search controls area. At the bottom right of the interface, the text 'Search using the controls above.' is visible.

Search Legislation <sup>?</sup>

General Assembly : 136th (2025-2026)

- 129th (2011-2012)
- 128th (2009-2010)
- 127th (2007-2008)
- 126th (2005-2006)
- 125th - Special Session (2004)
- 125th (2003-2004)
- 124th (2001-2002)
- 123rd (1999-2000)
- 122nd (1997-1998)

Enter keywords

Cosponsor

Committee

Search using the controls above.



# OTHER HELPFUL RESOURCES

# MEMBERS BRIEFS

The image shows the cover of a 'Members Brief' document. At the top left is a small photograph of the Ohio Statehouse. To its right, the title 'Members Brief' is written in a large, elegant, blue script font. Below this, in a smaller blue font, is the subtitle 'An informational brief prepared by the LSC staff for members and staff of the Ohio General Assembly'. Further down, the author 'Alyssa Bethel, Attorney' and reviewer 'Amber Hardesty, Division Chief' are listed on the left, and the volume '135' and date 'March 8, 2024' are on the right. The main title of the brief, 'Municipal Home Rule', is centered in a bold blue font. Below the title is a short introductory paragraph. A 'Contents' section follows, listing various topics and their page numbers. A paragraph of text explains the concept of home rule authority in Ohio. At the bottom, there is a footnote and contact information for the Legislative Service Center.

**Members Brief**

An informational brief prepared by the LSC staff for members and staff of the Ohio General Assembly

Author: Alyssa Bethel, Attorney  
Reviewer: Amber Hardesty, Division Chief

Volume 135  
March 8, 2024

## Municipal Home Rule

Municipal corporations have home rule authority, which includes the power of local self-government and the exercise of certain police powers. Because these powers originate in the Constitution, laws passed by the General Assembly that interfere with them may be invalid as applied to municipal corporations unless those laws are sanctioned by other provisions of the Constitution. Courts apply an analytical framework to determine if a municipal ordinance or state law is valid under the Home Rule Amendment.

### Contents

Local self-government .....	2
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Police power .....	4
<i>Canton</i> test .....	4
Conflict .....	4
Analytical framework.....	5
Preemption efforts.....	5
Limitations on municipal home rule power.....	6

In Ohio, municipal corporations (cities and villages) have certain powers granted to them in Article XVIII of the Ohio Constitution known as “home rule” powers. These include: (1) the power of local self-government and (2) the power to adopt and enforce local police, sanitary, and other similar regulations that are not in conflict with general laws.<sup>1</sup> In the area of home rule, one must rely on the courts to determine the validity of a state law or municipal ordinance. A state law that interferes with municipal corporations’ home rule authority (e.g., by attempting to preempt an area of law), or a municipal ordinance that violates the Home Rule Amendment (e.g., by conflicting with a general law), may be found invalid by a court.

<sup>1</sup> Ohio Constitution, Article XVIII, Section 3. Municipal corporations also have “utility home rule,” related to the ownership and operation of public utilities, which this brief does not discuss. See Ohio Const., art. XVIII, secs. 4, 5, and 6.

Vern Riffe Center • 77 South High Street, Ninth Floor • Columbus, Ohio 43215-6136 • Telephone (614) 466-3615  
lsc.ohio.gov

- LSC [Members Briefs](#) provide background information on topics of interest to legislators and staff.
- You can find the full catalog of *Members Briefs* under the Publications tab on LSC’s website.

# BUDGET FOOTNOTES

- *Budget Footnotes* is a monthly newsletter about the current status of Ohio's General Revenue Fund.
- It also provides updates on the economy and a variety of budget and fiscal issues, and includes helpful infographics.
- You can find [Budget Footnotes](#) under the Budget Central tab on LSC's website.

## LBO Budget Footnotes

A monthly newsletter of the Legislative Budget Office of LSC

Volume: Fiscal Year 2023

Issue: March 2023

### Highlights

— Ross Miller, Chief Economist

February GRF tax receipts were \$124 million above the estimate published by the Office of Budget and Management (OBM). The sales and use tax was \$67 million over estimate, while the personal income tax (PIT) was \$36 million over. The commercial activity tax (CAT) generated \$429 million for the month, \$7 million below estimate. A large (\$17 million) positive variance for the financial institution tax (FIT) more than offset a \$3 million negative variance for January, so the first payment this fiscal year (due January 31, some of which shows up in February) was well above estimate. Year-to-date (YTD) GRF tax revenue through February was \$774 million above estimate.

On the other side of the ledger, February GRF Medicaid expenditures were \$373 million below estimate, accounting for nearly 93% of the \$401 million negative variance for the month across all GRF uses.

Shortly before publication of this issue of *Budget Footnotes*, Ohio announced that nonagricultural wage and salary employment increased 14,800 in January and statewide unemployment as a percent of the labor force declined to 4.0%.

#### Through February 2023, GRF sources totaled \$27.98 billion:

- ❖ Revenue from the sales and use tax was \$213.0 million above estimate;
- ❖ PIT receipts were \$433.5 million above estimate.

#### Through February 2023, GRF uses totaled \$28.30 billion:

- ❖ Program expenditures were \$967.8 million below estimate, including GRF Medicaid spending, which was \$582.1 million below estimate;
- ❖ Expenditures from all other program categories were below estimate except for Debt Service, which was above estimate by \$2.2 million;
- ❖ Among program categories for which expenditures were below estimate, the largest variances (aside from Medicaid) were for General Government (\$160.3 million) and Justice and Public Protection (\$134.9 million).

#### In this issue...

More details on GRF [Revenues](#) (p. 2), [Expenditures](#) (p. 11), the [National Economy](#) (p. 27), and the [Ohio Economy](#) (p. 28).

#### Also Issue Updates on:

- [Brent Spence Bridge Corridor Project](#) (p. 21)
- [Kindergarten Readiness Grant](#) (p. 22)
- [K-4 Literacy Report](#) (p. 22)
- [College Credit Plus](#) (p. 23)
- [Safer Ohio School Tip Line](#) (p. 25)
- [National Endowment for the Arts Awards](#) (p. 25)
- [Ohio Grape and Wine Industries](#) (p. 26)

Available online at: [lsc.ohio.gov/BudgetCentral](http://lsc.ohio.gov/BudgetCentral)

Time for a pop quiz!



# QUESTION 1

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True or False?

LSC prepares an analysis for every bill that is drafted during a legislative session.



# QUESTION 1 - ANSWER

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False.

LSC prepares an analysis for a bill when it is scheduled for a first hearing and then updates the analysis as the bill progresses through the legislative process.

A member may request that an analysis be done earlier.

## QUESTION 2

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True or False?

Although an analysis does not determine if a bill is a good, bad, or effective idea, it does provide a detailed explanation of how a bill proposes to change current law.

## QUESTION 2 - ANSWER

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True.

An analysis provides a detailed explanation of what a bill proposes to do and how it proposes to change current law.

Because of LSC's nonpartisan status, an analysis cannot discuss whether a bill is a good, bad, or effective idea.

## QUESTION 3

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True or False?

Fiscal notes and local impact statements are prepared by the Office of Budget and Management (OBM).

## QUESTION 3 - ANSWER

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False.

Fiscal notes and local impact statement are prepared by LSC's Legislative Budget Office (LBO).

## QUESTION 4

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True or False?

A Local Impact Statement determination is included in the fiscal note for every bill.

## QUESTION 4 - ANSWER

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True.

The Local Impact Statement procedure determination appears in the fiscal note for every bill.

## QUESTION 5

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True or False?

A synopsis of committee amendments summarizes the changes to a bill made by the committee in the second house that considers the bill, which is useful to legislators in the first house who are trying to decide whether to concur in those amendments.



## QUESTION 5 - ANSWER

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True.

A synopsis of committee amendments summarizes the changes to a bill made by the committee in the second house that considers the bill.

The members of the first house may review the synopsis when voting on whether to concur with changes made to the bill by the second house.

## QUESTION 6

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True or False?

The Status tab of a bill's page on the General Assembly's website reflects legislative action recorded in the Journal.

## QUESTION 6 - ANSWER

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True.

The Status tab is updated daily after the most recent legislative activity is posted in the House and Senate Journals.

## QUESTION 7

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True or False?

Information about the status of a bill that was introduced in 1950 is available on the General Assembly's website.

## QUESTION 7 - ANSWER

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False.

The online archive of Status Reports for previous General Assemblies goes back to 1983.

For information about bills introduced before 1983, consult the LSC Library.

# QUESTION 8

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True or False?

If a bill is listed anywhere on the Calendar for a particular House or Senate sessions, that means the bill is scheduled for a vote that day.

## QUESTION 8 - ANSWER

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False.

Only the bills above the thick black line on the Calendar are scheduled for a vote on the session day for that Calendar.

## QUESTION 9

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Which publication is the official record of legislation action by the House and Senate?

1. Calendar
2. Journal
3. Bill analysis



## QUESTION 9 - ANSWER

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Journal.

The House and Senate Journals are the official record of legislative action by the House and Senate.

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