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H.B. 531
134th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Reported by House Civil Justice

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Ghanbari

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SUMMARY

- Allows a county prosecuting attorney to provide legal services to a regional airport authority, port authority, or regional planning commission.
- Allows the county prosecuting attorney to charge a fee for legal services agreed to under the contract.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

County prosecutor as legal adviser

The bill allows a county prosecuting attorney, in the prosecuting attorney's discretion and with the approval of the board of county commissioners, to contract with a regional council of governments, metropolitan planning organization, or regional transportation planning organization to be its legal adviser.

The contract may provide for the payment of a fee to the prosecuting attorney for legal services agreed to under the contract. All money received under the contract must be deposited into the prosecuting attorney's legal services fund. Money in that fund may be appropriated only to the prosecuting attorney for providing legal services under the contract.

If the regional council of governments, metropolitan planning organization, or regional transportation planning organization covers territory or a region in more than one county, the council or organization may choose the prosecuting attorney with whom it enters into the contract, with the approval of the board of county commissioners of that county.¹

¹ R.C. 167.05 and 309.09.

This authority exists under continuing law for other, similar entities such as regional planning commissions and regional airport authorities. The bill mirrors the language currently applicable to those entities.²

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	01-12-22
Reported, H. Civil Justice	03-02-22

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² R.C. 309.061 and 713.21, not in the bill, and R.C. 309.09.