

Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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Version: As Reported by Senate Government Oversight and Reform

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Roegner

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Terry Steele, Senior Budget Analyst

Highlights

The state Board of Building Appeals and county and municipal boards of building appeals may establish fees to offset additional costs for the expedited appeal process created under the bill. For both the state and local appeals bodies, these fees cannot exceed \$500 for each day the appeal is pending or \$1,000 in total.

Detailed Analysis

The bill creates a new expedited process for appealing orders issued by the state Board of Building Standards, housed within the Department of Commerce's Division of Industrial Compliance, as well as orders issued by county and municipal building departments. At the state level, these appeals are heard before the state Board of Building Appeals. At the local level, appeals are heard by one of the 23 city and county boards statewide which are certified to do so by the Department of Commerce. Under the bill, once an expedited appeal is requested, the state Board of Building Appeals or certified local appeals board must commence the appeal within one regular business day after the request was made and hold a hearing within five regular business days. Current law requires decisions to be made within 30 days of an appeals hearing.

Any additional costs that the state or certified county and municipal appeals boards incur through the expedited appeals process would likely be offset through the additional fees authorized by the bill. Specifically, the bill allows the state or certified local appeals boards to charge up to \$500 for each day the appeal is pending or \$1,000 in total. Under continuing law, the state Board of Building Appeals is permitted to establish reasonable, cost-based fees for appeals that may not exceed \$200, which is the current rate charged now. These fees are deposited into the Industrial Compliance Fund (Fund 5560). The rate permitted under current law for county and municipal appeals boards is up to \$100. At the state level, the five-member Board of Building Appeals conducts three hearings per month, both online and in person.

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