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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
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Office

H.B. 433
136th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 433's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Klopfenstein and Fowler Arthur

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- The bill restructures the inspection and permit fee schedule applicable to equipment regulated by the Department of Agriculture's Division of Amusement Ride Safety and Fairs. These changes are expected to result in a net loss of approximately \$23,000 in annual revenue to the Amusement Ride Safety Fund (Fund 5780).

Detailed Analysis

The Department of Agriculture's Division of Amusement Ride Safety and Fairs is responsible for overseeing and enforcing safety requirements for the operation of amusement rides, games, and concessions. The Division is funded through a combination of fees from permits, inspections, reinspections, and fines collected from amusement ride operators and deposited into the Amusement Ride Inspection Fund (Fund 5780) as well as the GRF. The bill adjusts the fee schedule for various types of rides, increasing fees for many ride types but also reducing fees applicable to inflatable rides. Taken together, these adjustments are expected to result in an annual revenue loss of approximately \$23,000 for Fund 5780. In FY 2025, Fund 5780 collected over \$1.3 million in revenue and had \$1.2 million in expenses.

Specifically, the bill expands the current amusement ride classifications that apply to annual inspections from four currently to the following seven classifications: (1) kiddie rides, (2) family rides, (3) major rides, (4) spectacular rides (5) family/portable roller coasters, (6) tower rides, and (7) large roller coasters. Correspondingly, the bill increases the applicable inspection and reinspection fees as follows: family rides from \$160 to \$200, major rides from \$140 to \$300, spectacular rides from \$160 to \$400, tower rides from \$160 to \$1,800, and large roller coasters from \$1,200 to \$4,000. Based on current ride types and inspections, these increases will yield a gain in revenue of about \$199,000 annually.

The bill also adjusts permit, inspection, and reinspection fees for inflatable rides in a way that the Division estimates will reduce revenues collected from these sources, more than offsetting the gains described just above. Specifically, the bill decreases the permit fee for inflatables from \$225 to \$100. It also replaces the current flat \$104 inspection or reinspection fee for inflatable rides with the following fee schedule: for three or fewer at the same location and with the same owner, \$100 each; for four to ten inflatables, \$75 each; and for 11 or more, \$50 each. This restructuring is expected to result in an annual revenue loss of \$222,000.

The Division of Amusement Ride Safety and Fairs is supported by a combination of permit and inspection revenue deposited into Fund 5780 and GRF appropriations. H.B. 96, the main operating budget act for the FY 2026-FY 2027 biennium, appropriated just over \$1.2 million in FY 2026 and nearly \$1.3 million in FY 2027 under Fund 5780 appropriation line item (ALI) 700620, Ride Inspection. H.B. 96 also appropriated \$779,000 in FY 2026 and \$801,000 in FY 2027 under GRF ALI 700511, Ride Inspection. On an annual basis, the Division conducts more than 7,000 concession inspections during the 94 county and independent agricultural fairs in Ohio. Additionally, it inspects approximately 4,000 rides across the state. Rides require an annual permit and an initial inspection before operation. Reinspections and supplemental inspections are performed at various times and locations throughout the state.