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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

**S.B. 279**  
**136<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**

## **Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement**

[Click here for S.B. 279's Bill Analysis](#)

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primary Sponsor:** Sen. Johnson

**Local Impact Statement Procedure Required:** No

Keegan Kennedy, Budget Analyst

### **Detailed Analysis**

The bill is not expected to have beyond an indirect fiscal effect on the state or its political subdivisions. It is presumed that those impacted by the bill's requirements will likely comply and enforcement actions will be rare. That said, to the extent that cases are filed in a court of competent jurisdiction and an actor is found to be in violation, those entities could be subjected to the penalties described below.

The bill prohibits establishments that serve the public from prohibiting, restricting, or discouraging a law enforcement officer who is carrying valid identification from carrying a weapon which they are authorized to carry on the premises, regardless of whether carrying that weapon is within the scope of their duties at that time. If a business is found to be in violation of the prohibition, they could be subjected to a civil penalty of \$10,000 per occurrence plus attorney's fees.

The bill also prohibits a state agency or political subdivision from discouraging or prohibiting a peace officer employed by the state or a political subdivision from carrying a weapon that the law enforcement officer is authorized to carry while the officer is off duty. Any state or political subdivision that violates this provision could be subject to a civil penalty of \$10,000 per occurrence plus attorney's fees.