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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
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Office

H.B. 23
136th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 23's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Passed by the Senate

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Roemer and Williams

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Maggie West, Senior Budget Analyst, and other LBO staff

Highlights

- The administrative workload of local law enforcement agencies that choose to initiate an alert under the Escaped Convict Alert Program (ECAP) may be minimally impacted.
- Provisions of the bill allowing for the appointment of certain types of banking police officers under defined circumstances will have a negligible impact on the Secretary of State (SOS).

Detailed Analysis

Escaped Convict Alert Program

The bill creates the Escaped Convict Alert Program (ECAP) to help identify and locate a person who has escaped from a jail, workhouse, or correctional institution while incarcerated for or awaiting adjudication of a felony offense and permits a law enforcement agency that receives a notice of an escape to activate the program for the surrounding area or region from which the person escaped.¹ Presumably ECAP alerts will be handled in the same manner as other regional alerts for local communities, such as missing persons/children alerts that do not reach the threshold for a Statewide Amber Alert notification. Such alerts are typically initiated by local law enforcement through the Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway (OHLEG), which is a free service provided to criminal justice agencies by the Ohio Attorney General. Assuming the same will apply to ECAP alerts, the bill may minimally impact the administrative workload of a local law enforcement agency that chooses to initiate an alert in response to a notice of an escape.

¹ The bill specifies that a jail, workhouse, or correctional institution does not include a community-based correctional facility or halfway house for purposes of ECAP.

Bank police officers

The bill authorizes the Secretary of State (SOS), upon the application of any prior parent company of a bank, to appoint and commission any persons the parent company designates, or as many of those designated which the SOS deems proper, to act as police officers for the bank. This provision expands the type of the entities that may apply for these commissions; however, it is unclear whether this expansion would necessarily result in an increase in applications for a police officer commission. The filing fee for a special police officer commission is \$15, which is deposited into the Business Services Fund (Fund 5990).