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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
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Office

H.B. 520
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. T. Mathews and D. Thomas

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SUMMARY

- Requires each county to establish a Blue Ribbon Committee consisting of local government representatives.
- Requires the Committee to review various operations within the county and issue a report of its recommendations for combining taxing units, sharing services, and executive programs more efficiently.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

County Blue Ribbon Committee

The bill requires each county to establish a Blue Ribbon Committee to assess functions within the county and identify opportunities for combining taxing entities, sharing services, and executing more efficient programs. The Committee consists of county, township, municipal, and school district representatives. They have one year to issue a report of their recommendations.

Membership

The Committee consists of the following members:

- All three members of the board of county commissioners. In a county that has an appointed or elected county executive, in lieu of the commissioners, it is the county executive and two residents of the county (appointed by the county executive with the approval of the county's legislative authority);
- The county auditor;
- The mayor of each municipal corporation located in the county (wholly or partially) that levies an income tax;
- One township trustee (selected by the board of township trustees) from each township located in the county (wholly or partially);

- The superintendent of any school district or educational service center located in the county (wholly or partially).

Members do not receive compensation but can be reimbursed by the county for actual and necessary expenses.

Duties

The Committee must do the following:

- Review and assess each taxing unit within the county to determine the taxing districts and levying entities most able to combine and consolidate operations for taxpayer savings. Taxing unit is defined under current law in [R.C. 5705.01](#)¹ and essentially means any political subdivision that has authority to levy a tax.
- Review and assess each county program or department to identify duplication of services and generally to streamline and improve county efficiency and effectiveness;
- Review and assess each public service and district, including water, sewer, health, park, and cemetery, to identify duplication of services and ability for consolidation.

Report

After reviewing these items but not later than one year after the bill takes effect, the Committee must issue a report of its recommendations for combining taxing units, sharing services, and executive programs more efficiently. The Committee must submit the report to the General Assembly and the county must publish the report on its website.²

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	10-15-25

ANHB0520IN-136/ar

¹ Available on the Ohio Laws & Administrative Rules website: codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code.

² Section 1.