

Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Office of Research and Drafting

Legislative Budget Office

H.B. 292 (l_136_0264-2) 136th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Click here for H.B. 292's Bill Analysis

Version: In House Veterans and Military Development

Primary Sponsors: Reps. T. Mathews and Santucci

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- The bill creates a Defense Industry Expansion Program to make grants to promote the defense industry. The grants would be paid out of a new Ohio Defense Fund consisting of funding appropriated by the General Assembly, interest collected on Israel bonds, and other sources. The bill does not appropriate funding.
- All 18 members of the Ohio Defense Commission overseeing the grant program and conducting other activities are to be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses. Eight specified members would also be paid in accordance with Department of Administrative Services pay rates.

Detailed Analysis

The bill establishes the Defense Industry Expansion Program to be overseen by an 18-member Ohio Defense Commission. The grants would be awarded to entities that support economic development related to the defense industry. The grant funding would come from a new Ohio Defense Fund created by the bill and consisting of interest collected on Israel bonds held by the state, and any grants, gifts, or contributions made to the Director of Development. Note that the bill does not provide an appropriation to distribute these grants.

The Ohio Defense Commission created by the bill consists of 18 appointed members. Under the bill, the appointees would not be compensated but would be entitled to reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses related to their duties. Eight of the members, however, including seven members representing the economic development districts of the state as defined by JobsOhio, as well as a member representing the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, would be paid in accordance with Department of Administrative Services (DAS) pay rates.

Consequently, the state would bear some small cost to cover these reimbursements and other expenses incurred by the Commission.

Synopsis of Fiscal Effect Changes

The substitute bill (I_136_0264-2) expands the Ohio Defense Commission from six to 18 members, adding compensation for eight of the members. This includes the seven members representing each of the state's JobsOhio regions and the member representing the Ohio Chamber of Commerce who are to be paid according to applicable pay scales established by Department of Administrative Services (DAS). All 18 members would continue to be entitled to reimbursement for their actual and necessary expenses.

L_136_0264-2 also removes the requirement for the Department of Development (DEV) to provide office space and facilities, reducing DEV's administrative costs. It further eliminates the mandate for the Commission to establish a defense business incubator, lowering costs by removing the need to support a facility for third parties to use.

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