



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: H.B. 423 of the 131st G.A. **Date:** May 24, 2016
Status: As Passed by the House **Sponsor:** Rep. Perales

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Call to military service orders exempted from disclosure for a period of time

State and Local Fiscal Highlights

- The bill may minimally increase the annual costs that a given state or local government agency incurs (1) to train staff in public records policy, and (2) to expend additional staff time and effort to ensure that, in response to any given public records request, exempted information is not disclosed.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill adds to the list of records that are not "public records" orders for active military service or other documentation regarding the call to order of an individual serving or with previous service in the U.S. Armed Forces, including a reserve component, or the Ohio organized militia (the Ohio National Guard, Ohio Naval Militia, and the Ohio Military Reserve). Thus, these call-to-service orders are exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Act until 15 years after the published date or effective date of the call to order. LSC estimates that the number of individuals to whom this record disclosure exemption applies totals over 900,000, including active duty and reserve military and veterans.

The bill will affect state and local government agencies with staff responsible for complying with public records requests, as these individuals may require additional training related to the disclosure exemption. However, LSC's research into this matter suggests that the cost to adjust existing public records training and records policy is not likely to exceed minimal.

It is uncertain whether a given government agency will experience an increase in workload related to ensuring that exempted information is not disclosed, as the volume of requests for these records varies by office. Presumably, any increase in administrative work, including additional time and effort to comply with the exemption, will be minimal and easily handled utilizing existing staff and resources.

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