



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Tom Middleton

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: S.B. 6 of the 132nd G.A.

Status: As Reported by Senate Transportation, Commerce & Workforce

Sponsor: Sen. Hoagland

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Subject: Extends the Ohio Bridge Partnership Program through FY 2019

State and Local Fiscal Highlights

- The Ohio Bridge Partnership Program has operated since FY 2014, and is used to award funding to local governments for bridge projects. For the FY 2018-FY 2019 biennium, the Department plans to spend \$5 million per year for the program.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill continues the Ohio Bridge Partnership Program through FY 2019. For context, the program was initially established by Executive Order in October 2013; however, there has been no explicit authorizing legislation for the program enacted by the General Assembly since that time. This bill creates the program in the Ohio Revised Code, but repeals the program at the end of FY 2019.

Between the time of its inception in FY 2014 and FY 2017, ODOT has awarded \$138 million for 204 bridge projects under the Ohio Bridge Partnership Program. To qualify for funding, the local bridge must meet certain criteria, including being (1) classified as "structurally deficient," (2) open to vehicular traffic, (3) included in the federal definition of "bridge" as having a span over 20 feet in length, and (4) not funded by other state or federal funding sources. No local matching funds are required under the program. Despite the lack of authorizing legislation under current law, according to ODOT the Department will fund the program at \$5 million per fiscal year, using federal funding made available to Ohio.

S.B. 6 also requires ODOT to complete a report recommending how the Department can continue to fund the program after FY 2019 using ODOT's current and continued transportation revenue sources. ODOT will incur a minimal amount of administrative cost to produce this report, but this will be absorbed within its current budget. The report must be submitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives within 90 days of the enactment of the bill.