



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Bill Analysis

Chenwei Zhang

H.B. 204

132nd General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Rep. Barnes

BILL SUMMARY

- Creates the Department of Grants and Philanthropic Gestures to, among its other duties, serve as a clearinghouse for information to the public regarding grants and the criteria for applying for grants that may be available from the state and the federal government.
 - Requires the Governor to appoint the Director of Grants and Philanthropic Gestures, with the advice and consent of the Senate.
 - Requires the Department to assemble information regarding all sources of private, philanthropic assistance available to Ohio residents.
 - Authorizes the Department to retain the services and fix the compensation of consultants, advisers, and other independent contractors to carry out the bill's purposes.
 - Requires the Director to create a registry of these consultants, advisers, and contractors, and to make the registry available to the public.
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CONTENT AND OPERATION

Department of Grants and Philanthropic Gestures

The bill creates, as an administrative department of the state, the Department of Grants and Philanthropic Gestures. The Department is to be administered by the

Director of Grants and Philanthropic Gestures, who is appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate.¹

Duties of the Department

Under the bill, the Department of Grants and Philanthropic Gestures must do all of the following:²

(1) Assemble information, and serve as a clearinghouse making information available to the public, regarding each grant and the criteria for applying to receive a grant, that may be available from the state and from the federal government, and regarding all sources of private, philanthropic assistance, financial or otherwise, that are available to Ohio residents;

(2) Solicit private donations to provide grants and assistance, financial or otherwise, for economic development, health, safety, and morals; and

(3) Identify barriers, and suggest ways of removing barriers, to entry into business, including entry into foreign markets, for Ohio residents.

The Department may receive and accept gifts, grants, donations, and similar funds from any lawful source to be used for the above purposes. The funds must be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the Department of Grants and Philanthropic Gestures, Gifts and Grants Fund, which the bill creates.

If a grant or assistance is based on a private donation solicited by the Department, the Department must ensure that the grant or assistance is provided in cooperation with the donor, and that any instructions the donor may have given with regard to the donation are complied with.³

Retaining services of independent contractors

The bill authorizes the Department to contract with, retain the services of, or designate, and fix the compensation of, consultants, advisers, and other independent contractors as may be necessary or desirable to carry out the bill's purposes. The

¹ R.C. 121.02(U) and 121.03(X).

² R.C. 121.77(A).

³ R.C. 121.77(B) and (C).



Director must create a registry of these consultants, advisers, and other independent contractors, and make the registry available to the public.⁴

Applicability of existing law

Under existing laws not changed by the bill, the director of a state department is required to undertake certain actions, for example, appoint an assistant director, establish divisions within the department with the Governor's approval, take an oath of office, and give bond, to name a few.⁵ These laws also apply to the Director of Grants and Philanthropic Gestures, as also do other laws in R.C. Chapter 121. (state departments).

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	05-09-17

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⁴ R.C. 121.77(D).

⁵ R.C. 121.05, 121.07, and 121.11.

