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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

H.B. 434  
135<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

## Bill Analysis

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primary Sponsor:** Rep. Loychik

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### SUMMARY

- Appropriates \$10 million to the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency to establish and support the Traumatic Brain Injury Treatment Accelerator Pilot Program.
- Requires the Brain Injury Foundation to administer the program on the Agency's behalf and to conduct it as a public-private partnership.

### DETAILED ANALYSIS

#### Traumatic Brain Injury Treatment Accelerator Pilot Program

H.B. 434 appropriates \$10 million to the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency to establish and support the Traumatic Brain Injury Treatment Accelerator Pilot Program. The bill specifies that the program's aim is threefold: to advance scientific research about traumatic brain injuries (TBIs), to develop TBI treatments, and to promote Ohio as a TBI research biohub.<sup>1</sup>

#### Brain Injury Research Foundation

Under the bill, the Brain Injury Research Foundation must administer the program on the Agency's behalf and conduct it as a public-private partnership.<sup>2</sup> As part of its duties, the Foundation must coordinate and award grants to entity partners, including universities, to support TBI research.

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<sup>1</sup> Section 2.

<sup>2</sup> More details about the Foundation, a nonprofit organization, can be found at [The Brain Injury Research Foundation](https://thebirf.org), which may be accessed on its website: [thebirf.org](https://thebirf.org).

## Grant eligibility

To be eligible for a program grant, each entity partner must demonstrate to the Foundation that it will match the Foundation's award with an equal amount awarded to it from one or more other sources, which may include institutions, private foundations, or the federal government.

## Annual reports

The bill requires the Foundation to prepare an annual report on the program's progress. Copies must be submitted to the General Assembly, the Governor, the Directors of the departments of Aging, Developmental Disabilities, Education and Workforce, Health, Mental Health and Addiction Services, and Public Safety, the Chancellor of Higher Education, the Medicaid Director, the Executive Director of the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency, the Administrator of Workers' Compensation, and the members of the Brain Injury Advisory Committee.

## Note on the Brain Injury Advisory Committee

Under current law unchanged by the bill, the Brain Injury Advisory Committee advises the Brain Injury Program, which is administered by The Ohio State University College of Medicine. To the extent funds are available, the Brain Injury Program engages in certain activities related to brain injuries, including (1) identifying and promoting the coordination of services for brain injury survivors and their families and (2) establishing a TBI incidence reporting system.<sup>3</sup> The Advisory Committee advises the Brain Injury Program on the unmet needs of brain injury survivors, the development of programs for survivors and their families, and the establishment of training programs for health care professionals.<sup>4</sup>

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## HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	02-27-24

ANHB0434IN-135/ar

<sup>3</sup> R.C. 3335.60.

<sup>4</sup> R.C. 3335.61.