

Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Office of Research and Drafting Legislative Budget Office



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Version: As Reported by House Agriculture and Rural Development

Primary Sponsors: Sens. Hoagland and Schaffer

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

 Specified state agencies may experience a minimal increase in costs to participate in the Agricultural Society Working Group until its termination in 2022. Any costs will be covered utilizing current resources.

Detailed Analysis

Voiding Director of Health order

The bill voids the July 30, 2020 order from the Director of Health, "Limiting County Fairs to Junior Fair Activities and Animal Exhibitions, with Exceptions." According to the Ohio Fair Managers Association website, the 2020 fair season has concluded. As such, when the county fair season begins in 2021, operations will likely return to normal. Any additional duties performed by local boards of health or other state or local entities as a result of the order, such as inspecting fairs for compliance or providing guidance, should no longer be required. Thus, these provisions should not result in direct costs to state or local entities.

Agricultural Society Working Group

The bill also creates the Agricultural Society Working Group for 2021. The bill requires the Working Group to study and recommend protocols for the safe and hygienic operation of county fairs and other festivals. The Working Group is required to meet periodically and conduct its initial meeting not later than 15 days after the bill's effective date. The Working Group is required to publish initial recommended protocols not later than April 10, 2021, and may update its recommendations at any time prior to its termination on February 1, 2022. The Ohio legislature and other state agencies, such as the Ohio Department of Agriculture, the Ohio Department of Health, the Ohio Expositions Commission, and the Governor's Office, may experience a minimal increase in costs to participate in the Working Group, including developing and publishing

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