OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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H.B. 297
136th General Assembly

Final Analysis

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Primary Sponsors: Reps. Ritter and Newman

Effective date: October 6, 2026

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SUMMARY

- Increases the amount a county may provide to military and veterans organizations for Memorial Day expenses.
- Increases from $100 to $200 the amount a county may appropriate to a civic organization for Memorial Day expenses.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Memorial Day expenses

Veterans' organizations

The act increases, from $500 to $1,000, the amount that a county may provide to certain organizations to defray Memorial Day expenses. Under continuing law, the board of county commissioners must annually appropriate, and advance upon application made by certain organizations, a sum of money to defray the expenses of Memorial Day. Eligible organizations include each garrison or naval branch of the Army and Navy Union, U.S.A. and each chartered post, garrison, or naval branch of any organization of veterans recognized and chartered by the Congress, in the county.

The organization applying for an advance of funds must submit to the board of county commissioners, with its application, a statement of expenses incurred up to the time the application for an advance is submitted. The organization receiving money from this appropriation must file a sworn statement accounting for the complete expenditure of the funds. Any unexpended funds must be returned to the county.[1]

[1] R.C. 307.66 (first paragraph).

Civic organizations

The act increases from $100 to $200 the amount a county may appropriate to a civic organization for Memorial Day expenses. Under continuing law, if any veterans' organization posts have become extinct or unable to attend to Memorial Day services, the county appropriation must be made to a post or unit of the sons of union veterans of the civil war, woman's relief corps, or daughters of veterans, or to any civic or patriotic organization willing and able to undertake and perform the work of commemoration and observance of Memorial Day.[2]

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	05-20-25
Reported, H. Veterans & Military Development	11-05-25
Passed House (89-0)	11-19-25
Reported, S. Armed Services, Veterans Affairs, & Public Safety	05-21-26
Passed Senate (33-0)	06-10-26

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[2] R.C. 307.66 (last paragraph).