Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

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H.B. 148
131st General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Patterson and LaTourette

BILL SUMMARY

- Requires the Ohio School Facilities Commission to offer classroom facilities
 assistance to a school district that results from the consolidation of two or more
 districts or from the voluntary transfer of the entire territory of a district if the
 consolidated or transferred districts satisfy specified conditions.
- Specifies that the district's portion of the total cost of the projects for which assistance is provided must be the lesser of 50% of the cost of the project or the required percentage of the basic project cost based on the percentile ranking of the lowest wealth district that was consolidated or transferred.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Classroom facilities assistance for certain consolidating school districts

The bill requires the School Facilities Commission to offer classroom facilities assistance to an eligible school district, on the date that the consolidation or transfer that results in the district becomes effective, for each project that was described in the consolidation or transfer agreement and approved by the Commission.¹

Eligible school district

For purposes of this provision, an "eligible school district" is a city, local, or exempted village school district that satisfies all of the following criteria:

(1) The district results from one of the following:

¹ R.C. 3318.75(B)(1).

- The consolidation of two or more contiguous city, local, or exempted village school districts following a proposal for consolidation by the State Board of Education and a vote by the electors residing in the territory of the new district;²
- The voluntary transfer of the entire territory of a city, local, or exempted village school district where the State Board adopts a resolution to transfer the territory after (a) it conducts a study when there is evidence of a need to transfer territories to another district or (b) a majority vote of the district board requests transfer of the entire district;³ or
- The voluntary transfer of the entire territory of a city, local, or exempted village school district where the district board files a proposal for transfer with the State Board after the district board deems the transfer advisable and has obtained written consent to the transfer from 75% of the owners of parcels of real property on the tax duplicate within that portion of the district.⁴
- (2) The districts that existed prior to the consolidation or transfer are located in the same county, and that county has a population of less than 100,000 as of the most recent federal decennial census; and
- (3) Neither of the districts has previously received any state funds from the Commission. However, one or more of the districts may have entered into an agreement under the Expedited Local Partnership Program.⁵

School district portion of the total cost of the project

For each project for which the Commission offers assistance under the bill, the district's portion of the total cost of the project must be the lesser of the following:

- (1) 50% of the cost of the project; or
- (2) The "required percentage of the basic project cost" (1% times a district's wealth percentile)⁶ based on the percentile ranking of the lowest wealth district that was consolidated or transferred.⁷

² R.C. 3311.37, not in the bill.

³ R.C. 3311.38, not in the bill.

⁴ R.C. 3311.24(A)(1)(a), not in the bill.

⁵ R.C. 3318.75(A).

⁶ R.C. 3318.01, not in the bill.

⁷ R.C. 3318.75(B)(2).

Background

As an independent agency of the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission, the School Facilities Commission (SFC) administers several programs that provide state assistance to school districts and community schools in constructing classroom facilities. The main program, the Classroom Facilities Assistance Program (CFAP), is designed to provide each city, exempted village, and local school district with partial funding to address all of the district's classroom facilities needs. It is a graduated, cost-sharing program where a district's portion of the total cost of the project and priority for funding are based on the district's relative wealth. Districts are ranked by wealth into percentiles. The poorest districts are served first and receive a greater amount of state assistance than wealthier districts will receive when it is their turn to be served based on their respective wealth percentile.⁸

The Expedited Local Partnership Program is one of several other programs administered by SFC to address the particular needs of certain types of districts. It permits most school districts that have not been served under CFAP to apply the advance expenditure of district money on approved parts of their districtwide needs toward their shares of their CFAP projects when they become eligible for that program.⁹

HISTORY

ACTION DATE

Introduced 04-13-15

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⁹ R.C. 3318.36, not in the bill.



⁸ R.C. 3318.01 to 3318.20, not in the bill.