



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

*Joseph Rogers*

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## Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

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**Bill:** H.B. 20 of the 131st G.A.

**Date:** May 12, 2015

**Status:** As Introduced

**Sponsor:** Reps. Gonzales and Koehler

**Local Impact Statement Procedure Required:** No

**Contents:** Concealed handguns in a school safety zone

### State and Local Fiscal Highlights

- As a result of a potentially small reduction in concealed carry arrests and convictions statewide, there may be minimal annual decreases in: (1) county and municipal criminal case processing and sanctioning costs, and (2) state incarceration costs. There may also be: (1) a minimal annual loss of fine and court cost revenues retained by counties and municipalities, and (2) a negligible annual loss of court cost revenues forwarded for deposit in the state treasury.

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## Detailed Fiscal Analysis

### Concealed handgun in a school safety zone

The bill modifies the exceptions to the restrictions governing concealed handguns in a school safety zone. The practical effect of the bill's changes is that there could be fewer violations of certain concealed handgun restrictions that, under current law, may lead to criminal prosecutions, and the suspension and/or revocation of a concealed carry license by the county sheriff that issued the license. Given the fact that the overall rate of suspensions and revocations for all violations of the Concealed Carry Law is very small, between 1% and 2% statewide, it seems reasonable to conclude that the potential reduction in the number of violations statewide, and subsequent number of persons prosecuted and sanctioned for such violations would also be very small.<sup>1</sup>

There may occur, at most, a minimal annual savings for the state and certain local governments. More specifically, county and municipal criminal justice systems may realize some expenditure savings as a result of having slightly fewer persons to prosecute and sanction for certain concealed carry violations. The state may also realize some savings in GRF-funded incarceration costs, as a result of slightly fewer offenders being sentenced to prison for felony concealed carry violations.

The state and certain local governments may lose relatively small amounts of annual revenue that might otherwise have been collected from certain concealed carry violators pursuant to the order of the sentencing court. The state's potential loss will be a negligible amount in court costs that, if collected, are then forwarded for deposit in the state treasury to the credit of the Indigent Defense Support Fund (Fund 5DY0) and the Victims of Crime/Reparations Fund (Fund 4020).<sup>2</sup> Counties and municipalities may lose a minimal amount of locally retained fine and court cost revenue that such a violator would have been required to pay.

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<sup>1</sup> Depending upon the circumstances of the violation, the conduct can be classified as either a misdemeanor or a felony.

<sup>2</sup> The court is generally required to impose state court costs totaling \$29 for a misdemeanor and \$60 for a felony. The \$29 misdemeanor amount is divided as follows: \$20 to Fund 5DY0 and \$9 to Fund 4020. The \$60 felony amount is divided as follows: \$30 to Fund 5DY0 and \$30 to Fund 4020.