



*Phil Mullin*

## ***Bill Analysis***

*Legislative Service Commission*

### **H.B. 425**

124th General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

**Reps. Reinhard, Faber, Grendell, Manning, Husted, Gilb, Core, Hagan,  
Womer Benjamin, Young, Webster, Cates, Fessler**

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#### **BILL SUMMARY**

- Prohibits the sale of gasoline blended with methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE).

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#### **CONTENT AND OPERATION**

The bill prohibits gasoline blended with methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) (see **COMMENT**) from being sold or offered for sale in Ohio (sec. 3704.12(A)). Under the bill, the Attorney General, upon the request of the Director of Environmental Protection, must bring an action for injunction in any court of competent jurisdiction against any person violating or threatening to violate this prohibition. The bill grants the court both prohibitory and mandatory injunctive relief. (Sec. 3704.12(B).)

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#### **COMMENT**

MTBE is an oxygenate, which means that is an oxygen-bearing additive used to reduce engine knocking and help gasoline burn more cleanly. According to information on the web site of the California Air Resources Board, MTBE began to be used as an anti-knock compound after the United States Environmental Protection Agency certified it for use in gasoline in 1979. The Board's web site also indicates that MTBE has caused public concern because it, along with other gasoline components, can contaminate groundwater when underground fuel tanks leak. This contamination risk results because MTBE moves faster in water than other fuel components and, in small amounts, renders drinking water unusable.

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## HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	10-25-01	p. 997

H0425-I.124/jc

