



H.B. 593

124th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Metzger, Raga, Hollister, Flowers, Hoops

BILL SUMMARY

- Creates the Ohio Historical Society Facility Study Committee to conduct a study and make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding the utility or adequacy of, restoration or renovation needs of, and other issues relating to the Ohio Historical Center, other facilities owned or operated by the Ohio Historical Society, and the Statehouse's educational services and amenities provided to visitors.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Composition

In general

The bill creates the Ohio Historical Society Facility Study Committee (Committee) consisting of at least the following 12 members who are to be designated or appointed within 14 days after the bill's effective date (Section 1(A)):

- The Director of Budget and Management or the Director's designee.
- The Director of Administrative Services or the Director's designee.
- The State Librarian or the State Librarian's designee.
- The Superintendent of Public Instruction or the Superintendent's designee.
- The Executive Director of the Ohio SchoolNet Commission or the Executive Director's designee.
- The Executive Director of the Ohio Arts and Sports Facilities Commission or the Executive Director's designee.

- The Executive Director of the Capital Square Review and Advisory Board or the Executive Director's designee.
- The Executive Director of the Ohio Historical Society or the Executive Director's designee.
- Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the House Speaker, not more than one of whom can be of the same political party as the House Speaker.
- Two members of the Senate appointed by the Senate President, not more than one of whom can be of the same political party as the Senate President.

The Committee may include additional members as described under "*Committee powers*," below.

Chairperson

The Director of Budget and Management or the Director's designee must serve as the Committee's chairperson (Section 1(A)).

Committee meetings

The Committee must hold its first meeting no later than 30 days following the bill's effective date. Thereafter, the Committee must meet as necessary to effectuate the bill's purposes (see "*Committee study and report*," below). (Section 1(A).)

Committee powers

A majority of the Committee's members may vote to add additional members to the Committee and to give the additional members voting authority. The Committee also may establish any other procedures it considers necessary to perform its functions (see "*Committee study and report*," below). (Section 1(A).)

Committee study and report

The Committee must conduct a comprehensive study of the effectiveness of the facilities owned and operated by the Ohio Historical Society in meeting the Society's current mission and strategic plans. The study must include evaluations of the following (Section 1(B)):

- The utility of the Ohio Historical Center in meeting the needs of the Ohio Historical Society and the citizens of Ohio.

- The need for the restoration or renovation of the Center.
- The need for a new collections storage facility to be constructed as part of any restoration or renovation of the Center.
- The adequacy of the Ohio Statehouse in providing educational services and appropriate amenities to children of school age and others who visit it.
- Any other issues related to Ohio Historical Society facilities that the Committee considers appropriate.

Following completion of the study and no later than one year after the bill's effective date, the Committee must issue a report to the General Assembly with the Committee's findings and recommendations regarding the study. However, the Committee is prohibited from making recommendations that would be a detriment to the Ohio Historical Society in executing certain of its statutory public functions (see **COMMENT**). (Section 1(B).)

Expiration of the Committee

The Committee will cease to exist upon issuance of its report (Section 1(B)).

COMMENT

The Ohio Historical Society's functions include (among others) creating, supervising, operating, protecting, maintaining, and promoting for public use a system of state memorials; leasing in a specified manner certain lands and buildings owned by the state; making alterations and improvements, marking, and constructing, reconstructing, protecting, or restoring structures, earthworks, and monuments in the Society's care; and equipping those facilities with appropriate educational maintenance facilities (sec. 149.30(A) and (B)--not in, but referred to in, the bill).

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	05-30-02	p. 1893

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