



S.B. 30

127th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Sen. Kearney

BILL SUMMARY

- Permits the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to make adoption assistance loans to prospective adoptive parents from the interest earned on the Unclaimed Funds Trust Fund.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

The bill creates a program under which prospective adoptive parents may apply for, and the Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) may grant, state adoption assistance loans. The Director of Job and Family Services is required to adopt rules as necessary to implement this program, including rules that establish (1) a loan application form, (2) procedures and standards for reviewing and granting or denying loan applications, (3) conditions on the use of the loan, (4) loan repayment terms, (5) procedures for collection of loan arrearages, and (6) any monetary penalties for loan arrearages or improper use of loan funds. All such rules must be adopted in accordance with R.C. Chapter 119., the Administrative Procedure Act. (R.C. 5101.143(B).)

These loans are to be made with money in the State Adoption Assistance Loan Fund, which is created by the bill in the state treasury. The Fund is to consist of the following:

--All interest earned on money in the Unclaimed Funds Trust Fund. Existing law requires that the interest be credited back to the Trust Fund. Generally, money in the Trust Fund is used (1) by the Director of Development to insure mortgage payments for certain industrial, distribution, commercial, and research related projects under R.C. Chapter 122., (2) by the Director of Development to execute bonds as surety, or guarantee bonds executed by sureties, for minority businesses as principals in accordance with R.C. 122.87 to 122.90, (3) by the Ohio Housing Finance Agency to fund loans, loan guarantees, and loan subsidies in accordance with R.C. Chapter 175., and (4) by the Director of

Commerce to pay claimants of unclaimed funds held by the state, as provided in R.C. 169.08.

--All loan repayments or other money, such as interest and penalties, derived from the loans;

--All investment earnings of the Fund. (R.C. 169.05 and 5101.143(A).)

In reviewing a loan application, ODJFS is required to consider the financial need of the prospective adoptive parent. The amount loaned cannot exceed \$2,000 and can be used only for specified expenses, including physician and hospital expenses incurred on behalf of the birth mother and expenses charged by the attorney or agency arranging the adoption. (R.C. 3107.018.)

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	02-20-07

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