



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

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H.B. 524

130th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Budish and Lundy, Patterson, Foley, Sheehy, R. Hagan, Antonio, Celebrezze, Letson, Boyd, Redfern

BILL SUMMARY

- Requires the Ohio Development Services Agency to develop the Lakefront Ohio Economic Development and Tourism Plan.
- Requires specified institutions of higher education located in an Ohio county bordering Lake Erie to jointly develop a proposal for the use of land in the region.
- Makes an appropriation.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Lakefront Ohio Economic Development and Tourism Plan

The bill requires the Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA) to develop the Lakefront Ohio Economic Development and Tourism Plan to increase commerce and tourism in Ohio counties with land bordering Lake Erie. The plan must include recommendations for the use of the following types of land in the region: (1) vacant land, (2) land currently available for commercial use, and (3) land currently in use that has potential to increase commerce and tourism in the region. The plan is prohibited from including proposals for the industrial use of land.¹

ODSA must develop the plan following submission of a proposal by regional institutions of higher education (see below), but not later than 16 months after the effective date of the bill. Upon completion, ODSA must then submit the plan to (1) the

¹ Section 1, division (A).

Office of TourismOhio, (2) JobsOhio, and (3) the mayor or county commissioner, or equivalent, of each Ohio county with land bordering Lake Erie.²

Proposal by regional institutions of higher education

The bill requires specified institutions of higher education to jointly review the types of land in the region (as described above) and to develop a proposal for the use of such land. The proposal must (1) identify land that could be developed to increase commerce and tourism and (2) include an economic development plan, with recommendations for funding. Not later than 12 months after the effective date of the bill, the proposal must be submitted to ODSA, which may then incorporate the proposal into the Lakefront Ohio Economic Development and Tourism Plan.³

The bill specifically names the following institutions of higher education, with main or branch campuses located in a county bordering Lake Erie, to jointly develop the land use proposal: (1) Bowling Green State University branch campus at the Firelands, (2) Case Western Reserve University, (3) Cleveland State University, (4) Cuyahoga Community College, (5) Lakeland Community College, (6) Lorain County Community College, (7) University of Toledo, and (8) Youngstown State University.⁴

Appropriation

The bill makes an appropriation of \$3 million from the General Revenue Fund for fiscal year 2015 to develop the Lakefront Ohio Economic Development and Tourism Plan. Of that appropriation, the bill requires \$375,000 to be distributed to each named institution of higher education.⁵

HISTORY

ACTION

DATE

Introduced

04-28-14

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² Section 1, division (C).

³ Section 1, division (B).

⁴ Section 1, division (D).

⁵ Section 2.

