



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

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Sub. H.B. 575*

130th General Assembly

(As Reported by H. Economic Development & Regulatory Reform)

Reps. Baker and Anielski, Duffey, Pelanda, Ruhl, Grossman, Conditt, C. Hagan, Gonzales, Slaby, Derickson, Sears, Driehaus, Antonio

BILL SUMMARY

- Establishes the Ohio Economic Council on Women to examine the economic concerns and needs of women in the state.
- Requires the council to serve as an advocate for women, encourage women to serve on state boards and commissions, evaluate the results of job training programs, and consult with and report to the Governor, the General Assembly, and other pertinent state and local agencies, departments, and commissions.
- Requires that the council consist of 15 members appointed by the Governor, the President and Minority Leader of the Senate, and the Speaker and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, with input from the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans, the Ohio Board of Regents, and other local, civic, and business groups.
- Requires the council to annually elect an executive board consisting of a chair, a vice-chair, and three other members to carry out the business of the council between meetings of the council at-large.
- Requires the council to meet not less than quarterly at the call of the chair or three council members.
- Requires the Director of Development Services to serve as the chief administrative officer of the council.

* This analysis was prepared before the report of the House Economic Development & Regulatory Reform Committee appeared in the House Journal. Note that the list of co-sponsors and the legislative history may be incomplete

- Requires the council to file a biennial report summarizing its findings, recommendations, and proposals with the Governor and the General Assembly and publish the report on the website of the Development Services Agency.
- Stipulates that the council dissolves by operation of law five years after the bill's effective date.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Ohio Economic Council on Women

The bill establishes the Ohio Economic Council on Women to examine the economic concerns and needs of women in the state, including employment policies and practices, educational needs and opportunities, child care, property rights, health care, domestic relations, and the effect of federal and state laws on women.

The council is required to serve as an advocate for women; establish and maintain a program to encourage women to serve on state boards and commissions; consult with and report to the Governor, the General Assembly, and other pertinent agencies, departments, boards, commissions, and entities of state and local government; and, if the council has sufficient resources, evaluate and quantify the results of job training programs. In fulfilling these duties, the council may conduct research, hold hearings, develop recommendations and policy, educate the public, and engage in other activities that benefit women.¹

Membership

The bill requires that the council consist of 15 members, appointed as follows:

- Two Senate members appointed by the President of the Senate;
- One Senate member appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate;
- Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- One member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives;

¹ R.C. 193.02(A) and (C).



- Four individuals who have knowledge of and experience regarding the economic concerns of women, jointly appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- One individual recommended by the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans and appointed by the Governor;
- Two individuals who are faculty or staff at a state or private four-year institution of higher education with a graduate program and who have research and teaching experience in the field of economic concerns of women, appointed by the Governor from nominations submitted by the Ohio Board of Regents;
- Two individuals appointed by the Governor from lists of qualified persons submitted by interested local, civic, and business groups involved in the advancement of women.²

Legislative members of the council hold office for the remainder of the General Assembly in which the member is appointed and until a successor has been appointed, notwithstanding the expiration of the member's term as a member of the General Assembly. The nonlegislative council members serve until the council dissolves. Vacancies on the council must be filled by appointment under the same criteria as the original appointment. The bill requires that at least one member of the council be an owner, chief executive officer, board member, or other managerial employee who performs a substantial role in the decision-making and the day-to-day operations of a sole proprietorship, a corporation for profit, or a pass-through entity.³

Meetings and organization

The bill requires the council to meet as frequently as necessary to transact its business, but not less than quarterly. Meetings may be called by the chair or by any three members of the council upon delivery of written notice to each member of the council. The Director of Development Services is required to notify all council members of the time and place of any regular or special meeting at least seven days in advance of that meeting. A majority of the council members constitutes a quorum and the concurrence of a majority of council members present and voting in any matter within the council's duties is required for the council's determination on such matter.⁴

² R.C. 193.01(A).

³ R.C. 193.01(B).

⁴ R.C. 193.01(D) and (E).



The council is required, at its first regular meeting each calendar year, to elect a chair, a vice-chair, and three representatives to comprise an executive committee. The purpose of the executive committee is to exercise the functions of the council between meetings of the council at-large.⁵

The bill requires the Director of Development Services to serve as chief administrative officer of the council. In this role, the Director may conduct ordinary and necessary business in the name of the council, serve as an advocate for women, and employ personnel as authorized by the council.⁶

Reimbursement for expenses

Council members do not receive compensation for their service, but the bill requires the Director of Development Services to reimburse them for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of council duties.⁷

Biennial report

On or before September 1, 2016, and every two years thereafter until the council dissolves, the council is required to submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly. The report must include the following:

- A summary of the activities and findings of the council on the economic status of women in the state during the immediately preceding two years;
- Recommendations for more effective use of existing resources and services for women;
- Proposals for the development of programs, opportunities, and services that are not otherwise provided to advance a comprehensive and coordinated system of services for women;
- Any other recommendations the council finds appropriate.

⁵ R.C. 193.01(C).

⁶ R.C. 193.04.

⁷ R.C. 193.01(F).



A copy of the report must be made available to the public on the website maintained by the Development Services Agency.⁸

Dissolution

The bill stipulates that the council dissolves by operation of law five years after the bill's effective date.⁹

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	05-27-14
Reported, H. Economic Development & Regulatory Reform	---

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⁸ R.C. 193.03.

⁹ R.C. 193.01(G).

