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## DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGENCY

### Local Government Safety Capital Grant Program

- Establishes the Local Government Safety Capital Grant Program under which the Local Government Innovation Council is to award grants to political subdivisions to be used for the purchase of vehicles, equipment, facilities, or systems needed to enhance public safety.
- Specifies that the total grants awarded to an individual political subdivision cannot exceed \$100,000.

### Fund closures

- Abolishes the Motion Picture Tax Credit Program Operating Fund and redirects the Fund's revenue to the Business Assistance Fund.
- Abolishes the Industrial Site Improvements Fund and the Rural Industrial Park Loan Fund.

### Report deadlines

- Changes, from August 1 to October 1, the due date of the annual report that must be prepared by the Development Services Agency (DSA) regarding its bond financed economic assistance programs.
- Moves from January 7 to August 1 of each year the date by which DSA must submit a report regarding the Career Exploration Internship Program to the Governor and General Assembly leaders.

### Housing Trust Reserve Fund

- Creates the Housing Trust Reserve Fund in the state treasury.
- Provides that the Reserve Fund is to consist of specified housing trust fund fees received each year by the Treasurer of State.
- Permits the Director to request the Director of Budget and Management to transfer money from the Reserve Fund to the Low- and Moderate-Income Housing Trust Fund if money in the Fund falls below a certain level.



## **Entrepreneurial business incubators report**

- Requires DSA to produce and post on its website by December 31, 2015 a report that maps and reviews entrepreneurial business incubators in Ohio.

## **Local Government Safety Capital Grant Program**

(Section 767.10)

The bill establishes the Local Government Safety Capital Grant Program to be administered by the existing Local Government Innovation Council.<sup>23</sup> Under the Program, the Council may award grants to political subdivisions to be used for the purchase of vehicles, equipment, facilities, or systems needed to enhance public safety.

Applications are to be submitted to the Development Services Agency (DSA) on a form specified by the DSA Director. DSA is to forward the applications to the Council for evaluation and selection. The Council cannot award more than \$100,000 in total grants to an individual political subdivision. Grants are to be made from the Local Government Safety Capital Fund, which is created by the bill in the state treasury. The Fund is to consist of money appropriated to it.

## **Fund closures**

### **Motion Picture Tax Credit Program Operating Fund**

(R.C. 122.174 and 122.85)

The bill abolishes the Motion Picture Tax Credit Program Operating Fund. The Fund consists of application fees paid by motion picture companies applying for certification of a motion picture as a tax credit-eligible production and all grants, gifts, fees, and contributions made to the Director of Development Services for marketing and promotion of the motion picture industry in Ohio. Money in the Fund is used to cover administrative costs of the Motion Picture Tax Credit Program and the Ohio Film Office.

Under the bill, the revenue currently required to be deposited into the Fund is to be deposited into the existing Business Assistance Fund instead. The Business Assistance Fund is used by the Director to pay expenses related to the administration of the Business Services Division of DSA.

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<sup>23</sup> See R.C. 189.03, not in the bill. The Council expires December 31, 2015; R.C. 189.10, not in the bill.



## **Industrial Site Improvements Fund**

(R.C. 122.95 and 122.951; R.C. 122.952 (repealed))

Under current law, the Director may make grants from the Industrial Site Improvement Fund to eligible counties for the purpose of acquiring commercial or industrial land or buildings and making improvements to commercial or industrial areas within a county, if the grant would create new jobs or preserve existing jobs. The Fund consists of money appropriated to it by the General Assembly.

The bill abolishes the Fund, but retains the grant program.

## **Rural Industrial Park Loan Fund**

(R.C. 122.26 (repealed))

The bill abolishes the Rural Industrial Park Loan Fund, which is currently used by the Director to provide financial assistance in the form of loans and loan guarantees for the development or improvement of industrial parks. The Rural Industrial Park Loan Program, however, is retained under the bill.

## **Report deadlines**

### **Annual financial report regarding economic assistance programs**

(R.C. 122.64)

The Director is currently required to make a report of the activities and operations of DSA's bond financed economic assistance programs for the preceding fiscal year and submit that report to the Governor and General Assembly by August 1 of each year. The bill changes the due date to October 1.

### **Career Exploration Internship Program report deadline**

(R.C. 122.177)

The bill moves from January 7 to August 1 of each year, until 2017, the date by which DSA must submit a report regarding the Career Exploration Internship Program to the Governor and General Assembly leaders. Under current law, DSA administers the Program to award grants to businesses that employ a student intern in a career exploration internship.

## Housing Trust Reserve Fund

(R.C. 174.02, 174.09, and 319.63)

The bill creates the Housing Trust Reserve Fund in the state treasury. It is to consist of specified housing trust fund fees collected by county recorders under existing law and paid to the Treasurer of State. Currently, the Treasurer of State deposits the first \$50 million of those housing trust fund fees received each year in the Low- and Moderate-Income Housing Trust Fund and deposits any amounts in excess of \$50 million into the GRF. Under the bill, any amounts received in excess of \$50 million are to be deposited into the Reserve Fund *unless* the cash balance of the Reserve Fund is greater than \$15 million. In that event, the Treasurer of State must deposit any amounts received in excess of \$50 million into the GRF.

If, in the prior fiscal year, the Treasurer of State received less than \$50 million of housing trust fund fees, the Director may request the Director of Budget and Management to transfer money from the Reserve Fund to the Low- and Moderate-Income Housing Trust Fund. Based on the information provided by the DSA Director regarding the transfer request, the OBM Director is to determine the amount to be transferred. However, the amount transferred, when combined with the housing trust fund fees received by the Treasurer of State in the prior fiscal year, cannot exceed \$50 million.

## Entrepreneurial business incubators report

(Section 257.90)

Under the bill, DSA must produce a report mapping and reviewing entrepreneurial business incubators (EBIs) in Ohio. An EBI is an entity supporting startup companies, offering a collaborative environment, and providing access to support services, technical expertise, and business assistance resources to help innovators grow their business ideas into independent job-creating companies. The report must be produced and made publicly available on the DSA website by December 31, 2015.

The report must:

- Identify locations and available support services, unmet service areas, and duplication of service at EBIs;
- Classify the industry of member entrepreneurs receiving services by the following categories: advanced manufacturing, aerospace and aviation, agribusiness, food processing, automotive supply chain, biohealth,



energy, information technology, polymers, chemicals, and additional industry sectors, as determined by DSA;

- Gather data on member entrepreneurs based on jobs, capital investment, and sales; and
- Describe characteristics of EBIs that successfully graduate companies to be independent job creators for Ohio.

