

# ***Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement***

*122<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of Ohio*

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**BILL:** Am. Sub. H.B. 126

**DATE:** May 21, 1997

**STATUS:** As Passed by the  
House

**SPONSOR:** Rep. Schuck

**LOCAL IMPACT STATEMENT REQUIRED:** No — Permissive

**CONTENTS:** Allows political subdivisions to distribute newsletters with limits to content.

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## ***State Fiscal Highlights***

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

## ***Local Fiscal Highlights***

<b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>FY 1997</b>	<b>FY 1998</b>	<b>FUTURE YEARS</b>
<b>Certain political subdivisions</b>			
Revenues	-0-	-0-	-0-
Expenditures	Potential minimal increase	Potential increase	Potential increase

- Potential cost for political subdivisions to produce and distribute newsletters.



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## ***Detailed Fiscal Analysis***

### **Political Subdivision Newsletters**

This bill allows certain agencies to use public monies to distribute newsletters or use other means to communicate information about the organization and restricts language used in such communication. By its definition of political subdivision, the legislation would apply to agencies such as solid waste, conservancy, and joint economic development districts, but not municipalities, counties, townships, and school districts. Municipal corporations are not included in the bill due to home rule privileges under Article XVIII, Section VII of the Ohio Constitution, and townships could have authority to distribute newsletters under Ohio Revised Code Section 505.07. The bill does not define the other means of communication that would be authorized. Internet web pages and public forums are some alternatives to newsletters for communicating information.

Costs to the entities would be related to copying, postage, purchasing computer software, and other administrative activities associated with disseminating information. These costs could be substantial, depending on the distribution amounts and frequency. The following is a sample cost analysis of distributing newsletters:

Frequency	Paper cost/unit	Equipment usage cost/unit	Postage/unit	Number of Newsletters	Total Annual Cost
Monthly	\$0.02	\$0.02	\$0.32	300	\$1,296

□ *LBO staff: Sybil N. Haney, Budget/Policy Analyst*

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