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## ***Detailed Fiscal Analysis***

This bill does the following: a) permits members of the General Assembly to resign without a vote of acceptance, provided resigning members send a letter of resignation to the leader of their respective house and receive a confirmation from the leader; b) renames the Legislative Clerk of the House and the Executive Secretary of the House as the Clerk of the House and the Chief Administrative Officer of the House, respectively; c) transfers responsibility for preservation of the legislative journals to the Ohio Historical Society; d) updates the mileage paid to certain officers of the Senate and House; and e) clarifies that only the principal Sergeant at Arms in each house is to be reimbursed for mileage, to an extent. Possible fiscal impacts would only pertain to provisions c, d, and e above.

### **Legislative Journal Storage Responsibility Transfer to Historical Society**

The bill transfers responsibility of storing the legislative journals from the office of the Secretary of State (SOS) to the Ohio Historical Society (OHS). However this provision would have no effect on SOS because that office has not stored the journals. The provision would increase costs for OHS because the office would need additional staff and equipment to manage the legislative archives. According to an official with OHS, two entry to mid-level archivists would be needed to answer questions about the legislative documents and to organize and manage them. Additionally, these archivists would need computers, telephones, and other office equipment. The contact from OHS also expressed a goal of digitizing some of the documents and placing them on a website. Storage shortfalls might need to be addressed in future years, but over the biennium are not expected to be a large problem. The following table shows the possible costs associated with these changes in the bill:

*Potential Costs of Legislative Documents Responsibility Transfer to OHS*

Fiscal Year	Positions Needed	Total Salary & Fringe Benefits	Total Equipment Costs	Total Costs
1999	Archivist (2)	\$78,000	\$6,000 and more, depending on when major equipment purchased	Up to \$84,000 and more
Future Years	Archivist (2)	\$78,000	Minimal	\$78,000 and more

### **Mileage Reimbursement Rate Increase for Certain Legislative Staff**

The rate of travel reimbursement for the House Chief Administrative Officer, and the House and Senate clerks and sergeants-at-arms would increase from \$.10/mile to the current rate for most state agents, \$.26/mile for FY 98 and \$.27/mile for FY 99. This reimbursement would only apply to these staff who live outside of Franklin County and only for two trips per month to the statehouse. Most legislative staff have not historically accepted reimbursement. Consequently, this provision would have little or no fiscal effect. However, the possibility exists

that any or all of these staff could request the reimbursements. The following table shows a comparison of maximum possible costs between the current rate of \$.10 and the proposed increases, using 150 miles roundtrip as an average amount to be traveled in state:

*Potential Costs of Mileage Reimbursements for the Five (5) Legislative Staff*

Fiscal Year	# of Roundtrips/year Eligible for Reimbursement	Old Reimbursement Rate	New Reimbursement Rate	Average # Miles, Roundtrip	Total Costs, New Rate	Increase in Costs (New Rate – Old Rate)
1998	6 (2 trips in each April, May, and June) – depending on effective date	\$.10	\$.26	150	\$1,170	\$720
1999	24	\$.10	\$.27	150	\$4,860	\$3,060

This bill also limits the mileage reimbursement to the five legislative staff members listed and excludes the assistants to the sergeants-at-arms. This provision is also expected to have little, if any fiscal effect.

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