

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

122nd General Assembly of Ohio

BILL: Sub. H.B. 653 DATE: May 13, 1998

STATUS: As Reported by House Local Government and Townships SPONSOR: Rep. Schuler

LOCAL IMPACT STATEMENT REQUIRED: No — Permissive

CONTENTS: Authorizes townships and counties to remove or trim trees and shrubs and to repair driveways within a sidewalk easement

State Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

Local Fiscal Highlights

LOCAL GOVERNMENT	FY 1998	FY 1999	FUTURE YEARS
Counties and townships			
Revenues	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
Expenditures	Potential minimal decrease	Potential minimal decrease	Potential minimal decrease

- Counties and townships could have reduced costs under the bill as they will not have gain the consent of nor compensate abutting land owners in order to trim trees or shrubs in the public right-of-way nor to repair driveways within a sidewalk easement.



Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Provisions of the bill

Basically, the bill expands county and township authority to trim trees and shrubbery as necessary to facilitate the right of the public to improvement and maintenance of public right-of-ways. In addition, as part of sidewalk improvement, counties and townships may repair or reconstruct driveways within the sidewalk easement.

Effects of the Bill

Fiscally, the most important feature of the bill is that it removes the requirement that counties and townships receive the consent of and/or compensate abutting land owners before trimming trees or shrubbery in the public right-of-way and permits the repair and reconstruction of driveways within the sidewalk easement.

The provisions of the bill could reduce the time and cost required for maintaining trees and shrubbery located on private property that obstruct the public right-of-way. The minimal cost reduction could occur as a result of the fact that counties and townships would no longer have to compensate nor receive consent from abutting land owners before trimming trees or shrubbery that obstruct the public right-of-way.

Counties and townships could also have reduce time and minimal reduced cost when doing sidewalk improvements, since they will be permitted to repair and reconstruct driveways without having to get property owner permission.

□ *LBO staff: Alexander C. Heckman, Budget/Policy Analyst*

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