
Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill requires the Director of the Department of Agriculture to appoint and convene an Ohio Dairy Industry Committee. The committee must include individuals representing the interests of grade A milk producers, manufacture milk processors, milk processors making cheese, milk processors supplying fluid milk for human consumption or making dairy products other than cheese, retailers of dairy products, ancillary support industries such as veterinary medicine or feed producers, the Department of Agriculture, the Ohio State University, and consumers. The committee can include members of the Senate and House of Representatives.

The Director is authorized to enter into a contract with the Ohio State University for office space, services, or technical support related to the functions of the committee. The Director cannot establish the committee until the director has received monies in fund 700-609 Ohio Dairy Industry Committee Contributions equal to 35% of the GRF amount appropriated for FY1998 to fund 700-502 Ohio Dairy Industry Committee. By September 30, 1999, the Director is required to submit an evaluation of the committee's activities to the Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives if the committee is created.

A GRF appropriation of \$75,000 is made for FY 1998 and FY1999. For every 35 cents expended from the state special revenue fund, 5C1 700-609 Ohio Dairy Industry Committee Contributions fund, one dollar of GRF monies is available for expenditure. Authorization for the committee is repealed on December 31, 1999.

A spokesperson for the Department of Agriculture said the department would most likely enter into a contract with the Ohio State University for the administration of the committee. According to a spokesperson for the Ohio State University, the appropriation will be used for the expenses approximate annual of the committee as follows:

\$50-60,000 for a coordinator position including salary and fringe
\$10-20,000 for travel and meeting costs (including mileage for participants from industry)
\$5,000 for publications
\$25,000 for general office expenses including a part-time administrative assistant

□ *LBO staff: Joni Leone, Budget/Policy Analyst*

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