Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

122 nd General Assembly of Ohio

BILL: **Sub. S.B. 164** DATE: **January 5, 1998**

STATUS: **As Passed by the Senate** SPONSOR: **Sen. Blessing**

LOCAL IMPACT STATEMENT REQUIRED: **No — No local cost**

CONTENTS: **Alters certain reporting requirements of the Attorney General**

State Fiscal Highlights

STATE FUND	FY 1998	FY 1999	FUTURE YEARS
General Revenue Fund			
Revenues	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
Expenditures	Potential minimal decrease	Potential minimal decrease	Potential minimal decrease

- The bill should result in a negligible decrease in state expenditures related to the elimination of the requirement to submit copies of certain reports to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

- The state could experience a further negligible decrease in expenditures related to the elimination of the antiquated requirements that the Attorney General of Ohio (AGO) report the receipt of certain moneys, report on the activities of certain farm laborer associations, and prescribe various forms and publications under the Registration of Land Titles Law.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on local governments.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Provisions of the Bill

Existing law requires any law enforcement agency or prosecuting attorney that engages in the seizure, forfeiture, disposal, or obtaining the proceeds from the sale of, certain types of property, or that receives any fine imposed for a violation of the existing Drug Abuse Law or under the Felony Drug Abuse Offense Forfeiture Law, to make cumulative reports to the AGO. The AGO is then required to annually provide a copy of each report received to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Under the provisions of the bill, AGO will instead be required to apply a modified reporting system that accomplishes the following: 1) indicates that reports were received from local law enforcement agencies and prosecuting attorneys; 2) indicates the annual reports are open for inspection under the existing

Public Records Law; and 3) indicates that the AGO will provide a copy of any or all reports to the President and/or Speaker upon request.

In addition to amending the requirements concerning the distribution of reports, the bill also repeals obsolete sections of the Ohio Revised Code that currently require the following: 1) The AGO to make a yearly report to the Governor of the moneys received by the AGO on behalf of the state and in conducting the business of the AGO; 2) The AGO receives annual reports on the activities of certain farm laborers' associations and reports the activities of such associations to the General Assembly; and 3) The AGO prepares and prescribes books, records, entries, blanks, and forms, to be used under the Registration of Land Titles Law.

Fiscal Effects of the Bill

Changes in Reporting

According to a representative of the AGO, since copies of the reports are made only once a year and would still have to be provided if requested, the elimination of the requirement to provide a copy to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives should result in no more than a negligible decrease in state expenditures related to the costs associated with copying.

Repeal of Obsolete Requirements

In relation to the provisions of the bill eliminating the requirement that the AGO submit an annual report to the Governor of the moneys received in the conduct of its internal business as well as that conducted on behalf of the state, any potential decrease in expenditures should be negligible since the act of submitting a formal report has not been practiced for many years. Additionally, the AGO would still be required to maintain a record of moneys received and would continue the practice of submitting informal summaries to the Governor. In relation to the repeal of the requirement that the AGO receive and forward to the General Assembly reports on the activities of certain farm laborers' associations, this is another provision that has not been in practice for a number of years and should thus generate no more than a negligible decrease in state expenditures. As is the case with the elimination of the above reporting requirements, the act of the AGO preparing and providing certain forms and publications under the Registration of Land Titles Law, has not been in practice for a number of years. Therefore, the provision of the bill eliminating the requirement should result in no more than a negligible decrease in state expenditures.

❑ *LBO staff: Jeff Newman, Budget/Policy Analyst*

H:\FN122\SB0164SP.DOC