

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The costs associated with this bill are in the redaction of the specified information. Redaction is a term associated with editing or revising information that is deemed confidential. Administrative personnel will be required to expend time on redacting a peace officer's personnel file prior to honoring any request for disclosure. The amount of time and the monetary value associated with manpower spent on redacting are minimal. Typically, redacting merely amounts to using a black in color magic marker to mark over the selected information, thus effectively making the text unreadable.

The bill provides that specified "peace officer residential and familial information" that is kept by a peace officer's employer as part of the peace officer's personnel record *generally* is confidential and *generally* is not a public record under the Public Records Law for as long as the employer keeps that information, even if the peace officer ceases to be employed by the employer.

"Peace Officer" includes the persons listed as peace officers in Section 109.71 of the Revised Code, state troopers appointed in accordance with Section 5503.01 of the Revised Code, and employees of the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction and the Department of Youth Services. "Peace Officer" does not include the sheriff of a county or a supervisory employee who, in the absence of the sheriff, is authorized to stand in for, exercise the authority of, and perform the duties of the sheriff.

The bill defines the "peace officer residential and familial information" covered by the general rule as information that discloses any of the following:

- ◆ The address of a peace officer's actual personal residence, except for the applicable state or political subdivision;
- ◆ A peace officer's Social Security number, residential telephone number, bank account number, emergency telephone number, or medical information;
- ◆ The name of any beneficiary of employment benefits (e.g., life insurance benefits) provided to a peace officer or other designated beneficiary by a peace officer's employer;
- ◆ The name, residential address, employer name, employer address, Social Security number, residential telephone number, bank account number, or emergency telephone number of a peace officer's spouse, former spouse, or child.

There are two exceptions to the provisions of the bill, neither of which have a significant monetary impact. The first is the continued operation of existing law's "home address of a peace officer disclosure prohibition and court order exception" provisions that apply when a peace officer is a witness or arresting officer in a pending criminal case. This exception is found in Section 2921.24 of the Revised Code. The second exception is applicable when any person or entity brings an action in court of common pleas, or files a written request with the chief or highest-ranking officer of the law enforcement agency that employs or formerly employed a peace officer, to obtain the release of *specified* information when the release of that information is in the public interest. However, the only information that the bill permits to be released in the

court action, or to be requested from and released by the chief or highest-ranking officer, is a *peace officer's actual personal residence address*: thus, the other types of confidential information listed may not be released by court order and may not be requested from or released by the chief or highest-ranking officer.

☐ *LBO staff: Eugene T. Gabrys, Graduate Researcher*

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