Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

127 th General Assembly of Ohio

Ohio Legislative Service Commission
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BILL:	**Sub. H.B. 129**	DATE:	**May 7, 2008**
STATUS:	**As Reported by House Civil and Commercial Law**	SPONSOR:	**Reps. Evans and Book**

LOCAL IMPACT STATEMENT REQUIRED: **No — Permissive**

CONTENTS: **To authorize a two year pilot program to study the effects of teleconferencing on member participation in public meetings**

State Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill authorizes a two-year pilot program that allows the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council, which is federally funded, the Ohio Statewide Independent Living Council and the Governor's Council of People with Disabilities, which are both supported by the Rehabilitation Services Commission, and the facility governing board and judicial advisory board of the STAR Community Justice Center in Franklin Furnace, which is funded by the Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections and federal funds, to conduct business meetings by teleconference or video teleconference. In order to participate in the pilot program, however, a council or board must adopt a rule permitting its members to use teleconferencing as a means of attending a public meeting. The apparent effect of the pilot program would be to give these bodies more flexibility to conduct business, not necessarily to create any new costs or savings.

The bill requires a participating council or board to submit a report to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, as well as the Minority Leaders of the House and Senate, not later than 18 months after the bill's effective date, that describes the effects that teleconferencing had on member participation in meetings. The report must also describe any additional costs incurred or savings realized through teleconferencing.

LSC fiscal staff: Terry Steele, Budget Analyst

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