



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: [H.B. 172 of the 128th G.A.](#) **Date:** June 9, 2009
Status: As Introduced **Sponsor:** Rep. Letson

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No — Minimal cost

Contents: Changes county facilities review board oversight responsibilities

State Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

Local Fiscal Highlights

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

FY 2010 – FUTURE YEARS

Counties

Revenues

- 0 -

Expenditures

Potential increase in board member reimbursement costs

Note: For most local governments, the fiscal year is the calendar year. The school district fiscal year is July 1 through June 30.

- The bill would require county facilities review boards to inspect and oversee facilities that provide services to adult wards of the probate court. For some county boards, this could cause an increase in reimbursement expenses. However, under current law unchanged by the bill, those expenses are capped at \$1,000 per board member. Because these boards consist of six members, the maximum allowable reimbursement amount is \$6,000.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill would require each county facilities review board (FRB) to conduct inspections of any facility where an adult ward of the probate court resides or receives services approved and authorized by the court. County FRBs currently review county homes, county jails, municipal prisons, and children's homes. Their findings are compiled and submitted to county government officials annually. Each board is composed of six members. Board members are not paid for their services, but are compensated for actual expenses, up to \$1,000 annually.

Probate courts are responsible for those persons whom the courts deem unable to care for and protect themselves, such as individuals with severe developmental disabilities and minors. Probate courts can order and authorize services for adult wards, including permanent residence in a nursing home or partial care at adult day-care centers. Probate courts in large counties can be responsible for several thousand guardianship cases. For example, Franklin County's Probate Court is responsible for approximately 7,000 guardianship cases annually. However, according to the 2002 Economic Census, there are approximately 3,000 nursing or residential care facilities in the state of Ohio.

Because the bill expands the purview of the FRBs to include facilities that house adult wards of the probate court, the bill could require boards to incur higher costs for reimbursing board members for their expenses. As there are six members on each board, and because the cap on reimbursements is \$1,000 per member annually, the maximum amount available for reimbursement is \$6,000 each year. Depending on how many facilities in each county house adult wards of the probate court, expenses for some FRBs could increase, up to the \$6,000 cap.