



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: [H.B. 132 of the 129th G.A.](#)

Date: June 7, 2011

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor: Rep. DeGeeter

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Good Samaritan Law for certain drug possession offenses

State Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.
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Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill requires that a court sentencing an offender for a misdemeanor or felony drug possession offense take into consideration, as a mitigating circumstance, whether that offender was seeking medical assistance for himself or herself, or on behalf of another person, for a drug-related overdose and evidence related to the offense was obtained as a result of the offender seeking that medical assistance. This provision should not noticeably increase the costs that a county or municipal criminal justice system incurs to process drug possession cases, as arguably a sentencing court already has the discretion under current law to take circumstances such as these into consideration and sentence accordingly. If anything, by clearly requiring the consideration of this factor, there could be offenders in the future who may be sentenced to a shorter jail or prison stay than might otherwise have been the case absent its codification. Such outcomes, in theory, reduce state and local incarceration costs to some degree.

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