Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: Sub. H.B. 158 of the 129th G.A. **Date**: April 27, 2012

Status: As Passed by the Senate **Sponsor**: Reps. Stebelton and Okey

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Specifies limits on local zoning of amateur station antenna structures

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 declares that the county, township, and municipal corporation zoning laws do not confer upon the legislative authority of a county, township, or municipal corporation a right to preclude amateur radio service. The bill also provides that, if these political subdivisions enact any zoning laws that regulate amateur radio service, the zoning restrictions must comply with two conditions. First, the laws may not restrict the height or dimensions of amateur station antennae in such a way as to prevent effective amateur radio service communications. Second, zoning rules must reasonably accommodate amateur radio station communications and must constitute the minimum practicable regulation necessary to accomplish the legislative authority's purpose. According to the West Central Ohio Amateur Radio Association, there are approximately 31,000 licensed amateur radio operators in Ohio. Overall, placing these limitations on a political subdivision's zoning authority over amateur radio antennae appears to have no direct fiscal effect on the state or its political subdivisions.

HB0158SP / emr