Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: Sub. H.B. 495 of the 129th G.A. **Date**: December 12, 2012

Status: As Reported by Senate Judiciary **Sponsor**: Rep. Johnson

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Concealed carry

State Fiscal Highlights

- The Attorney General may realize a minimal at most savings in administrative costs as the bill makes it easier, under certain conditions, to recognize that a concealed carry license issued by another state is valid in Ohio.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- There may be a slight statewide reduction in the number of persons prosecuted and sanctioned for violating the law that regulates the handling of unloaded firearms in a motor vehicle. The resulting local fiscal effect would be a negligible annual expenditure savings and related revenue loss (fines, court costs, and fees) for the county and municipal criminal justice systems with jurisdiction over such matters.
- There may be an increase in expenditures from the Sheriff's Concealed Handgun License Issuance Expense Fund as a result of permitting the sheriff to use its money for costs of ammunition used in a course, class, or program administered by the sheriff for a concealed handgun license.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Reciprocity

The bill simplifies the overall process in which Ohio law recognizes concealed carry licenses from other states, and generally expands reciprocity among those states with concealed carry laws. By allowing reciprocity to exist with states having similar laws, and eliminating some of the need to negotiate reciprocity agreements, the Attorney General may realize a minimal at most administrative savings.

Firearms in motor vehicles

The bill modifies the definition of "unloaded" with respect to handling firearms in a motor vehicle in such a manner that the scope of how a person can lawfully carry a concealed handgun is clarified and somewhat broadened. The practical effect of this change is that there may be fewer violations of certain restrictions concerning the transport of unloaded firearms in a motor vehicle. Given that the number of persons prosecuted and sanctioned annually statewide for violating such restrictions is extremely small, the likely local fiscal effect would be a negligible annual expenditure savings and related revenue loss (fines, court costs, and fees) for the county and municipal criminal justice systems with jurisdiction over such matters.

Sheriff's Concealed Handgun License Issuance Expense Fund

Under current law, the sheriff, with the approval of the board of county commissioners, may spend any county portion of the fees deposited into the Sheriff's Concealed Handgun License Issuance Expense Fund to cover costs incurred by the sheriff in connection with performing any functions related to the issuance of concealed handgun licenses. The bill explicitly permits money in the fund to be used for costs of ammunition used in a course, class, or program administered by the sheriff for a concealed handgun license. As a result, expenditures from the fund may increase to some degree in certain counties, with a possible savings effect relative to money from other funds of the sheriff that would otherwise have been expended for ammunition costs.

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