



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

*Joseph Rogers*

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## Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

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**Bill:** [Sub. H.B. 225 of the 130th G.A.](#)  
(LSC 130 1138-1)

**Date:** January 29, 2014

**Status:** In House Judiciary

**Sponsor:** Rep. Butler

**Local Impact Statement Procedure Required:** No

**Contents:** Settlement offers

### State Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

### Local Fiscal Highlights

- The bill creates the potential for some level of administrative savings in the time and expenses of courts of common pleas, as there could be a relatively small reduction in the number of disputes filed with the court, or if filed, disposed of more promptly.

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### Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill creates a procedure which may encourage the offering and acceptance of negotiated settlements in certain civil actions typically filed with and adjudicated by courts of common pleas. Such an outcome reduces in some manner the court's workload resulting in a potential savings effect. That effect for any given court is not quantifiable, but would involve some level of administrative savings in court time and expenses. This would be due to the resolution of a dispute before it reaches the trial phase or a more timely resolution of the dispute during adjudication because a settlement is offered and accepted. Information gathered by LSC fiscal staff, including discussions with the Judicial Conference of Ohio, suggests that the number of settlements that could be affected by this procedure in any given court is going to be very small in the context of the court's overall caseload.

### Synopsis of Fiscal Effect Changes

The bill's fiscal effects remain unchanged under the substitute bill.