

Executive

As Passed by the House

As Reported by Senate Finance

AUDCD1 Councils of Government Notifications

R.C. 167.04, Section 701.60

Requires the officers of regional councils of government to inform the Auditor of State of their existence within 30 days of the effective date of this act, or within 10 days of formation if the Council is formed after the effective date of this act, on forms prescribed by the Auditor of State.

Requires the Auditor of State, within one year of the effective date of this act, to review and report to the Governor and General Assembly how many such Councils are operating, and whether regional councils continue to meet the objectives for which they were first authorized, and whether they are an efficient and effective way for local governments to share services or participate in cooperative arrangements.

Fiscal effect: Regional councils and the Auditor of State could incur some additional administrative burden for complying with these requirements.

R.C. 167.04, Section 701.60

Same as the Executive.

Same as the Executive.

Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.

R.C. 167.04, Section 701.60

Same as the Executive.

Same as the Executive.

AUDCD2 Streamlining Government Clearinghouse Web Site

Section: 701.20

Requires the Auditor of State to establish, operate, and maintain one or more web sites to serve as an online clearinghouse for political subdivisions about streamlining government operations, collaboration, and shared services to reduce the cost of government in the state. Allows other existing web sites to be used to fulfill these requirements as long as they meet the eight criteria listed below.

Section: 701.20

Same as the Executive, but adds that the Auditor must also compile information provided by political subdivisions about joint purchasing arrangements they are involved in that the Auditor of State verifies, through meetings with various statewide associations and others, to have resulted in verifiable cost savings. (DAS was required to develop and maintain a joint purchasing opportunity web site under the Executive proposal, see DASCD14.)

Section: 701.23

Same as the Executive.

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Requires the Auditor of State, in implementing the web site, to do the following: (1) use a domain name that will be easily recognized, remembered, and understood by users; (2) maintain the web site so it is fully accessible to and searchable by members of the public at all times; (3) not charge a fee to a person who accesses, searches, or otherwise uses the web site; (4) enable information to be accessed by key word or other useful identifiers; (5) compile information provided by political subdivisions that includes savings recommendations from performance audits, examples of shared services among communities, shared services agreements to use as templates, and other tools; (6) enable political subdivisions to register and request inclusion of their submitted information on the web site, as well as to report state and local barriers to collaboration; (7) maintain adequate systemic security and back-up features, and develop and maintain a contingency plan for coping with and recovering from power outages, systemic failures, and other unforeseeable difficulties; and (8) maintain the web site in such a manner that it will not infringe upon legally protected interests.

Permits the Auditor of State to develop the web site internally or use vendors to design and implement the web site.

Fiscal effect: The Auditor of State may incur new costs for developing and operating the web site clearinghouse, whether the task is accomplished internally or by an IT vendor.

Same as the Executive, but alters (4) to specify that the information must be accessible by key word, by program name, by county, by type of product or service, as well as by key word or other useful identifiers.

Same as the Executive, but also requires the Auditor of State to bear the expense of establishing, operating, and maintaining the online clearinghouse web site.

Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.

Same as the Executive.

Same as the Executive.

Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.

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DASCD14 Online Clearinghouse to Identify Available Joint Purchasing Opportunities

Section: 701.30

Requires DAS, by itself or by contract with another entity, to establish, operate, and maintain a state web site to serve as an online clearinghouse of information about existing joint purchasing programs between or among political subdivisions.

No provision. Included in the web site the bill requires the Auditor of State to develop and maintain (see AUDCD2).

Section: 701.33

Same as the Executive.

Requires DAS to: (1) use a domain name that will be easily recognized, remembered, and understood by users, (2) maintain the web site so it is fully accessible to and searchable by members of the public, (3) not charge a fee to a person who uses the web site, (4) compile information provided by political subdivisions on the web site about joint purchasing arrangements they are involved in that DAS verifies, through statewide associations and others, have resulted in verifiable cost savings, (5) enable political subdivisions to register and request inclusion of their submitted information, (6) enable information to be accessed by key word, by program name, by county, by type of product or service, and by other useful identifiers, (7) maintain adequate systemic security and back-up features, and develop and maintain a contingency plan for coping with and recovering from unforeseen disruptions in service, and (8) maintain the web site in such a manner that it will not infringe legally protected interests, so that vulnerability of the web site to interruption because of litigation or the threat of litigation is reduced.

No provision.

Same as the Executive.

Requires DAS to bear the expense of establishing, operating, and maintaining the online clearinghouse web site.

No provision.

Same as the Executive.

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Fiscal effect: DAS will incur new costs for developing and maintaining this web site.

Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.

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COMCD7 Unclaimed Funds Law Changes

R.C. 169.01, 169.02, 169.03, 169.06, 169.08, 169.13, 169.14, and 169.16

No provision.

Requires the Director of Commerce to adopt rules for the payment of simple interest on allowed claims at a rate to be determined by the Director, and requires that any returns on investment or interest earned beyond what is paid as interest to the owner be retained to fund the cost of administering the Unclaimed Funds program.

No provision.

No provision.

Requires the written agreement between an owner of unclaimed funds and a person who assists in their recovery (a "finder") to disclose that the Director of Commerce will direct the Director of Budget and Management to pay from the unclaimed funds any legal amount specified in the agreement directly to the finder, and requires the agreement to specify that any such fee will be deducted from the direct payment and that the remaining unclaimed funds will be paid directly to the owner.

No provision.

No provision.

Requires the Director of Budget and Management, instead of the Auditor of State as required under current law, to make the payment of unclaimed funds when the owner of the unclaimed funds has entered into an agreement with a finder to locate, deliver, recover, or assist in the recovery of those unclaimed funds.

No provision.

No provision.

Requires each person that files a claim for unclaimed funds with the Director of Commerce under a finder's agreement to include a copy of the agreement with the claim.

No provision.

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No provision.

Allows the Director of Commerce to establish a reasonable fee for the processing and delivery of any payment made to a finder pursuant to such an agreement, payable by the finder.

No provision.

No provision.

Requires an applicant for registration by the Division of Unclaimed Funds as a finder to undergo a criminal records check conducted by the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation, or a vendor approved by the Bureau, and requires the applicant to pay the fee required to conduct the background check.

No provision.

No provision.

Requires the Director of Commerce to notify owners of unclaimed funds, without an address known by the Department of Commerce or residing out of state, by public notice posted on the Department's web site. Current law requires that public notice be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county of the owner's last known address or, if the owner resides in a foreign country, by other means of publication that the Director finds most effective.

No provision.

No provision.

Replaces the term "unclaimed funds" with "property presumed abandoned" throughout the Unclaimed Funds Law.

No provision.

Fiscal effect: Potential increase in the amounts disbursed under the Unclaimed Funds program by allowing interest to accrue on amounts claimed. Negligible increase in administrative costs for the Department of Commerce and the Office of Budget and Management for processing claims involving finders. Corresponding negligible savings for the Auditor of State.

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General

JFSCD24 Joint County Departments of Job and Family Services

R.C. *329.40, 329.01, 329.41, 329.42, 329.43,
329.44, 329.45, 329.46, 330.04, 5101.01*

Permits the boards of county commissioners of any two or more counties (rather than only Hocking, Ross, and Vinton counties) to enter into a written agreement to form a joint CDJFS.

No provision.

Fiscal effect: Potential decrease in administrative costs for counties that form a joint CDJFS.

No provision. Included in H.B. 509, As Introduced.

No provision.

R.C. *329.40, 329.01, 329.41, 329.42, 329.43,
329.44, 329.45, 329.46, 330.04, 5101.01*

Same as the Executive

Specifies that a joint CDJFS is a public office and therefore subject to audit by the Auditor of State.

Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.

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LOCCD6 Fiscal Distress Financial Plan Requirements

R.C. *118.023, 118.06, 3316.04, and 3316.06*

Requires a municipal corporation, county, township, and school district under a fiscal watch or fiscal emergency to identify, in the financial plan required in these circumstances, the actions to be taken to enter into a shared service agreement with another political subdivision that agrees to carry out governmental functions or provide services for the municipal corporation, county, township, or school district.

No provision. Included in H.B. 509, As Introduced.

No provision. Included in H.B. 509, As Introduced.

Fiscal effect: There could be some increase in administrative costs for political subdivisions to provide this additional information in the required financial plans.