



*Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments**

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Legislative Service Commission

Sub. H.B. 299

125th General Assembly

(Senate State & Local Government & Veterans Affairs)

Prohibits the placement of a graveled road on "nonmaintained" status under the House-passed version's proposals if any person resides in a residence adjacent to the road, it is the exclusive means for obtaining access to the residence, and the residence is the person's primary place of residence (R.C. 5541.05(D) and 5571.20(D)).

Adds provisions to the House-passed version preserving certain public utility rights of way in vacated roads and extends rights of way protections to electric cooperatives in relation to vacated roads (R.C. 5553.04, 5553.042, 5553.043, and 5553.045(E)).

Adds provisions to the House-passed version establishing a right to trim or remove trees and other matter growing in or encroaching onto a public utility, railroad, or electric cooperative right of way preserved under the bill (R.C. 5553.042(B)(3), 5553.043, and 5553.045(E)(3)).

Adds provisions to the House-passed version creating the Oil and Gas Advisory Council to advise the Chief of Mineral Resources Management in the Department of Natural Resources regarding the adoption of certain rules governing oil and gas wells (Section 8 of the bill).

Adds provisions to the House-passed bill that contingently amend two provisions of Sub. H.B. 278 of the 125th General Assembly (Sections 3 to 7 of the bill) as follows:

- By eliminating a "more than 15,000 population" threshold for *both* municipal corporations and townships to be eligible to receive notifications of oil or gas well drilling permit applications and instead allowing any municipal corporation or township whose legislative authority has asked for copies of those applications to receive them (R.C. 1509.06).

* This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the Senate floor.

- By reducing the threshold for *townships* from "more than 15,000" population to "more than 5,000" population in relation to the rules that the Chief of Mineral Resources Management must adopt identifying the subjects that the Chief must address when attaching terms and conditions to a permit for a well and production facilities of a well located within a municipal corporation or within a township with a population of more than 15,000. The reduction is accomplished by a new definition of an "urbanized area." (R.C. 1509.03.)

Adds a provision to the House-passed version authorizing a county prosecuting attorney to serve as legal adviser to a joint fire district at no cost to the district (R.C. 309.09(E)).

Adds an emergency clause to the House-passed version.

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