

| Executive     |                      | As Passed By House | In Senate Finance   |
|---------------|----------------------|--------------------|---|
| ELCCD3        | Campaign finance law |                    | R.C. 102.08, (enacted), 3517.01, 3517.08, 3517.10, 3517.102, 3517.105, 3517.106, 3517.107, 3517.1010 (enacted), 3517.1011, 3517.121, 3517.13, 3517.992 (3517.99), 3599.03, 3921.22, 4123.442, and 4503.03   |
| No provision. |                      | No provision.      | Eliminates prohibitions against a corporation or labor organization making an independent expenditure regarding a candidate.  |
| No provision. |                      | No provision.      | Eliminates dollar limits on contributions to entities that make only independent expenditures.  |
| No provision. |                      | No provision.      | Prohibits a political action committee (PAC) or political contributing entity (PCE) that accepts a contribution from a corporation or labor organization from then making a contribution to any entity other than one that makes only independent expenditures. |

| Executive     | As Passed By House | In Senate Finance  |
|---------------|--------------------|--|
| No provision. | No provision.      | Requires a corporation or labor organization that makes independent expenditures to report its expenditures in the same manner as other political entities by doing all of the following:<br>- Expanding and clarifying the definition of a PCE to include any entity that makes contributions or expenditures and that is not an individual, a campaign committee, a political party, a legislative campaign fund, or a PAC.<br>- Allowing an unincorporated business to continue to make contributions in the names of its individual partners, owners, or members, instead of classifying the entity as a PCE.<br>- Changing the definition of an independent expenditure to include any use of funds or anything of value for that purpose, meaning that a PCE that uses its own money instead of contributions to fund an independent expenditure must report the expenditure.<br>- Clarifying that "independent expenditure" includes expenditures concerning ballot issues, as well as expenditures concerning candidates.<br>- Making clear that all PCEs must comply with the continuing law that requires entities that engage in political advertising to report the expenditure and to identify themselves in the advertisement as the funding source. |
| No provision. | No provision.      | Clarifies that a transfer of a digital asset to a candidate or political entity is an in-kind contribution.  |
| No provision. | No provision.      | Requires a campaign committee that accepts a contribution in the form of a digital asset to receive the digital asset directly into an account in the campaign committee's own name.   |
| No provision. | No provision.      | Requires a campaign committee that accepts a contribution via an electronic peer-to-peer payment service to accept the contribution directly into an account in the campaign committee's own name.   |

| Elections Commission |                                   |  | Main Operating Appropriations Bill<br>H.B. 96 |   |  |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Executive            |                                   | As Passed By House   |   | In Senate Finance   |  |
| No provision.        |                                   | No provision.  |   | Requires JLEC to issue advisory opinions related to campaign finance for General Assembly members and candidates (See ELC 2).   |  |
| No provision.        |                                   | No provision.  |   | Specifies procedures for the new Ohio Election Integrity Commission to terminate a dormant campaign committee or political action committee (See ELC 2).  |  |
| ELCCD2               | Abolish Ohio Elections Commission | R.C. 109.02, 145.055, 145.99, 742.044, 742.99, 3307.074, 3307.99, 3309.074, 3309.99, 3501.05, 3501.11, 3513.04, 3513.05, 3513.10, 3513.261, 3517.01, 3517.08, 3517.081, 3517.102, 3517.109, 3517.1012, 3517.11, 3517.121, 3517.13, 3517.153 (3517.14), 3517.15, 3517.16, 3517.155 (3517.17), 3517.993 (3517.18), 3517.20, 3517.21, 3517.22, 3517.23, 3517.991 (reenacted), 3517.992 (3517.99), 5505.046, 5505.99, Section 525.50; Repealed: 3517.14, 3517.151, 3517.152, 3517.154, 3517.156, 3517.157, 3517.99, 3517.991 |   | R.C. 109.02, 111.29 (enacted), 145.054, 145.055, 145.99, 742.043, 742.044, 742.99, 3307.073, 3307.074, 3307.99, 3309.073, 3309.074, 3309.99, 3501.05, 3501.11, 3513.04, 3513.05, 3513.10, 3513.261, 3517.01, 3517.08, 3517.081, 3517.102, 3517.109, 3517.1012, 3517.11, 3517.121, 3517.13, 3517.152 (3517.14), 3517.153 (3517.15), 3517.154 (3517.16), 3517.155 (3517.17), 3517.157 (3517.18), 3517.993 (3517.171), 3517.20, 3517.21, 3517.22, 3517.23, 3517.991 (reenacted), 3517.992 (3517.99), 5505.045, 5505.046, 5505.99, Repealed: 3517.14, 3517.151, 3517.152, 3517.154, 3517.156, 3517.157, 3517.99, 3517.991; Section 395.10, 525.50 |  |
| No provision.        |                                   | Abolishes ELC as of January 1, 2026. Requires ELC, between the bill's effective date and January 1, 2026, to continue to hear the matters pending before it based on the current law requirements, but prohibits any new complaints from being filed with ELC during that time. Requires, instead, that complaints be filed with SOS or the board of elections, as applicable.   |   | Same as the House, but replaces the ELC with a five-member Ohio Election Integrity Commission, to be appointed by SOS and the leaders of the General Assembly. Sets the qualifications, terms of office, compensation of the members of the new Commission, and process for removing a member for cause.  |  |
| No provision.        |                                   | Requires complaints regarding violations of the Campaign Finance Law to be heard by a hearing officer appointed by SOS or to be heard by a board of elections, depending on the violation, before any prosecution may commence.  |   | Replaces the House provision with one that gives the new Commission jurisdiction over the same campaign finance related offenses as ELC currently has, plus certain voting- and petition-related offenses. Requires all complaints to be filed with SOS, reviewed and heard by an SOS attorney, and disposed of by SOS, except in the case of a conflict of interest.   |  |

| Executive     | As Passed By House   | In Senate Finance   |
|---------------|--|---|
| No provision. | No provision.  | Requires an attorney appointed by the new Commission to hear the matter if the subject of the complaint objects to SOS's determination within 14 days.  |
| No provision. | Changes several procedural requirements regarding administrative hearings of those complaints and the prosecutor to whom a violation may be referred, but generally retains the current administrative and criminal penalties.                               | Same as the House but allows SOS or the new Commission to dispose of a complaint as follows: (1 ) Find no violation and, if applicable, find the complaint frivolous; (2) find a violation and impose a fine of up to \$1,000 per occurrence; and (3) find a significant violation or repeated violations and refer the matter for prosecution. |
| No provision. | Transfers any matters pending before ELC as of January 1, 2026, to SOS or a board of elections (BOEs), as applicable, for disposition under the amendment.   | Same as the House, but to only the SOS and not BOEs.  |
| No provision. | Allows SOS to issue advisory opinions regarding the Campaign Finance Law and specifies that existing ELC opinions are considered SOS opinions unless and until they are amended or rescinded.  | Replaces the House provision with one that instead transfers the authority to issue advisory opinions from the ELC to the Ohio Election Integrity Commission and additionally requires the Joint Legislative Ethics Committee to issue advisory opinions for campaign finance for General Assembly members and candidates (See ELC 3).          |
| No provision. | Provides procedures for ELC to wind up its affairs and transfer its records, assets, and liabilities to SOS.   | Same as the House.  |
| No provision. | Removes all candidate filing fees credited to the Ohio Elections Commission Fund (see ELCCD1).   | Replaces the House provision with one that transfers all candidate filing fees credited to the Ohio Elections Commission Fund to the Ohio Election Integrity Commission Fund (Fund 5CS1) (see ELCCD1).  |
| No provision. | Transfers the cash balance of the Ohio Elections Commission Fund (Fund 4P20) to the Corporate and Uniform Commercial Code Filing Fund (Fund 5990) on January 1, 2026, or as soon as possible thereafter. Abolishes Fund 4P20 after the transfer is complete. | Same as the House, however transfers the cash balance of the Ohio Elections Commission Fund (Fund 4P20) to the Ohio Election Integrity Commission Fund (Fund 5CS1) on January 1, 2026, or as soon as possible thereafter.   |

| Executive   | As Passed By House   | In Senate Finance   |
|---|--|---|
| No provision.   | Cancels any existing encumbrances against Fund 4P20 ALI 051601, Operating Support, and reestablishes them against Fund 5990 ALI 050630, Elections Support Supplement, used by SOS. Appropriates the reestablished encumbrance amounts.   | Same as the House, but instead reestablishes existing encumbrances against Fund 5CS1 ALI 050604, Ohio Election Integrity Commission, used by SOS.   |
| No provision.   | No provision.<br><br><b>Fiscal effect: County Boards of Elections and the SOS will incur costs previously incurred by the ELC for complaints regarding violations of Campaign Finance Law.</b>   | Requires SOS to refer all past due fines imposed by ELC, SOS, or the new Commission to AGO for collection.<br><br><b>Fiscal effect: The SOS will incur costs previously incurred by the ELC for complaints regarding violations of Campaign Finance Law. The bill appropriates \$250,000 in FY 2026 to SOS's Fund 5CS1 ALI 050604,Ohio Election Integrity Commission.</b> |
| <b>ELCCD1      Candidate filing fees</b>  |  |   |
| <b>R.C.          3513.10</b>  | <b>R.C.          3513.10</b>   | <b>R.C.          3513.10</b>  |
| Increases the candidate filing fees by \$5 for the following offices: (1) State Board of Education, (2) county and municipal court judge, (3) state legislators, (4) U.S. Representatives, (5) city and county elected officials. | Replaces the Executive provision with one that instead removes all candidate filing fees credited to the Elections Commission Fund (Fund 4P20). Removes additional candidate filing fees for the State Board of Education (see SBECD2) and county coroners (see LOCCD21) which are to be appointed rather than elected positions under the bill. | Same as the House, but replaces the provision that removes all ELC candidate filing fees with a provision that instead transfers ELC candidate filing fees, unchanged by the bill, from being paid to Fund 4P20 to the new Ohio Election Integrity Commission Fund (Fund 5CS1).   |
| Increases the candidate filings fees by \$10 for: (1) statewide elected offices and (2) Court of Appeals and Court of Common Please judges.   | No provision.  | No provision.   |
| <b>Fiscal effect: Additional revenue gain of approximately \$10,000 over the biennium for the Elections Commission Fund (Fund 4P20).</b>  | <b>Fiscal effect: With the abolishment of ELC (see ELCCD2), ELC candidate filing fees paid to Fund 4P20 are repealed.</b>  | <b>Fiscal effect: Minimal foregone fee revenue resulting from the appointment rather than election of the State Board of Education and county coroners.</b>   |

| Executive |                                     | As Passed By House   | In Senate Finance   |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| SBECD2    | State Board of Education membership | R.C. 3301.01, 3301.02, 3301.03, and 3301.06; 3513.259 (repealed); Section 801.230; various other sections making conforming changes  | R.C. 3301.01, 3301.02, 3301.03, and 3301.06; 3513.259 (repealed); Section 801.230; various other sections making conforming changes |
|           | No provision.                       | Reduces State Board of Education (SBE) membership from eight members appointed by the Governor and 11 elected members to a total of five members appointed by the Governor.  | Same as the House.  |
|           | No provision.                       | Abolishes the offices of the elected SBE members upon expiration of their current terms or a vacancy in their offices and the offices of the first three appointed members whose terms expire or who vacate their offices.   | Same as the House.  |
|           | No provision.                       | Modifies the representation requirements for appointed SBE members to require at least one member to represent each of a rural, suburban, and urban school district, a community school, and a chartered nonpublic school.   | Same as the House.  |
|           | No provision.                       | Changes criteria for determining whether absences lead to a vacancy in SBE from two consecutive absences from regular SBE meetings for reasons that are declared insufficient by a vote of 12 members to three consecutive absences from regular meetings for any reason.  | Same as the House.  |
|           | No provision.                       | Eliminates all requirements regarding the election of SBE members.<br><br>Fiscal effect: Decrease in SBE board member compensation costs reaching roughly \$50,000 annually once the SBE falls to five members. SBE members are paid \$32.02 per hour for the performance of official duties. In 2024, SBE board members received an average of about \$3,500 in compensation. SBE members also receive travel reimbursements, which will decrease to some degree as well. | Same as the House.<br><br>Fiscal effect: Same as the House.   |

| Executive                          | As Passed By House  | In Senate Finance                           |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| LOCCD21 County coroner appointment | R.C. 313.01, 305.02, 305.03; Section 703.10   | R.C. 313.01, 305.02, 305.03; Section 703.10 |
| No provision.                      | Requires that a county coroner be appointed quadrennially by the board of county commissioners instead of being elected quadrennially by voters as under current law. | Same as the House.                          |
| No provision.                      | Removes the county coroner as the county official to fill in when two county commissioners are absent and instead requires the county auditor to do so.               | Same as the House.                          |
| No provision.                      | Allows current county coroners who were elected to complete their terms.  | Same as the House.                          |
|                                    | Fiscal effect: None.  | Fiscal effect: None.                        |