

Executive

As Reported By House Finance

**SOSCD1 Poll Workers Training**

**Section: 395.20**

Requires that GRF ALI 050407, Poll Workers Training, be used to reimburse county boards of elections for precinct election official training.

**Section: 395.20**

Same as the Executive.

**SOSCD2 County Voting Systems Lease Rental Payments**

**Section: 395.20**

Requires that GRF ALI 050509, County Voting System Lease Rental Payments, be used to make payments during the biennium pursuant to leases and agreements entered into under Section 4 of S.B. 135 of the 132nd G.A., that were used to finance the costs of acquiring, developing, installing, and implementing county voting systems.

**Section: 395.20**

Same as the Executive.

**SOSCD3 Board of Voting Machine Examiners**

**Section: 395.20**

Requires Fund 4S80 ALI 050610, Board of Voting Machine Examiners, to be used for the services and expenses of the members of the Board of Voting Machine Examiners and for other expenses that are authorized to be paid from Fund 4S80. Requires that unused money be returned to the person or entity submitting equipment for examination. Permits the SOS to request that the OBM Director approve additional expenditures if necessary, and appropriates the additional amounts approved.

**Section: 395.20**

Same as the Executive.

**SOSCD4 Ballot Advertising Costs**

**Section: 395.20**

Allows CEB, upon request of the SOS, to approve cash transfers from the Controlling Board Emergency Purposes/Contingencies Fund (Fund 5KM0) to the Statewide Ballot Advertising Fund (Fund 5FH0) to pay the cost of public notices associated with statewide ballot initiatives.

**Section: 395.20**

Same as the Executive.

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**SOSCD5 Absent Voter's Ballot Application Mailing**

**Section: 395.20**

Authorizes CEB, upon request of SOS, to approve cash and appropriation transfers from Fund 5KM0 to the Absent Voter's Ballot Application Mailing Fund (Fund 5RG0) to print and mail unsolicited applications for absent voters' ballots for the November 2026 general election.

**Section: 395.20**

Same as the Executive.

**SOSCD6 Address Confidentiality Program**

**Section: 395.20**

Authorizes the OBM Director, upon request of the SOS, to transfer up to \$400,000 cash in each fiscal year from the Business Services Operating Expenses Fund (Fund 5990) to the Address Confidentiality Program Fund (Fund 5SN0).

**Section: 395.20**

Same as the Executive.

**SOSCD7 Corporate/Business Filing Refunds**

**Section: 395.20**

Requires that Fund R0002 ALI 050606, Corporate/Business Filing Refunds, be used to hold revenues until they are directed to appropriate accounts or until they are refunded. Appropriates additional amounts deemed necessary by the SOS and approved by the OBM Director.

**Section: 395.20**

Same as the Executive.

**SOSCD8 HAVA Funds**

**Section: 395.20**

Reappropriates the available balance of Fund 3AS0 ALI 050616, Help America Vote Act (HAVA), at the end of FY 2025 and FY 2026, for the same purposes in the following fiscal years.

**Section: 395.20**

Same as the Executive.

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**SOSCD9 Electronic Pollbooks**

**Section: 395.30**

Extends through FY 2027, the provisions that require the SOS, through Fund 5ZE0 ALI 050638, Electronic Pollbooks, to reimburse county boards of elections up to 85% of the total calculated allocation cost to acquire electronic pollbooks and ancillary equipment as defined by R.C. 3506.05. Reappropriates the available balance of Fund 5ZE0 ALI 050638, Electronic Pollbooks, at the end of FY 2025 for the same purposes in FY 2026.

Requires the SOS to calculate the portion of appropriation item 050638, Electronic Pollbooks, to be allocated to each county board of elections in proportion to the number of registered voters in each county as recorded in the statewide voter registration database as of July 1, 2022. Requires that SOS, in conjunction with DAS Procurement Services, use the funding allocated to each county to reimburse them for the cost of acquiring electronic pollbooks and ancillary equipment according to certain guidelines.

**Section: 395.30**

Same as the Executive.

Same as the Executive.

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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

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.

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.

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.

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.

No provision.

Eliminates all requirements regarding the election of SBE members.

**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.**

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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

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.

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.

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.

No provision.

Transfers any matters pending before ELC as of January 1, 2026, to SOS or a board of elections, as applicable, for disposition under the amendment.

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.

No provision.

Provides procedures for ELC to wind up its affairs and transfer its records, assets, and liabilities to SOS.

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No provision.

Removes all candidate filing fees credited to the Ohio Elections Commission Fund (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.

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.

**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.**

**ELCCD1 Candidate filing fees**

**R.C. 3513.10**

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.

Increases the candidate filings fees by \$10 for: (1) statewide elected offices and (2) Court of Appeals and Court of Common Please judges.

**Fiscal effect: Additional revenue gain of approximately \$10,000 over the biennium for the Elections Commission Fund (Fund 4P20).**

**R.C. 3513.10**

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.

No provision.

**Fiscal effect: With the abolishment of ELC (see ELCCD2), ELC candidate filing fees paid to Fund 4P20 are repealed.**

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PENC05 Precinct election officials excluded from PERS

No provision.

R.C. 145.012

Excludes from PERS membership a person whose only service as a public employee is, and who receives any compensation for service during a calendar year as, a precinct election official.

**Fiscal effect: Reduces employer contribution costs for county boards of elections by excluding all precinct election officials (PEOs) from PERS membership. Under current law, only PEOs earning below \$600 in a calendar year (\$1,000 during years with multiple primary and general elections) are excluded.**

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LOCCD21 County coroner appointment

No provision.

R.C. 313.01, 305.02, 305.03; Section 703.10

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.

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.

No provision.

Allows current county coroners who were elected to complete their terms.

Fiscal effect: None.

LOCCD22 Township zoning referendum process

No provision.

R.C. 519.12

Exempts township zoning amendments related to megaprojects from the zoning referendum process.

LOCCD24 Village dissolution evaluation

No provision.

R.C. 703.331

Adds electric services to the list of services that may be counted when evaluating whether a village has provided five services and therefore does not qualify for an automatic ballot question on village dissolution.