



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

## Bill Analysis

Amber Hardesty

### H.B. 31\*

129th General Assembly

(As Reported by H. State Government and Elections)

Rep. Combs

---

## BILL SUMMARY

- Adopts the children's book *Lentil* and its author as the official children's book and children's book author of Ohio.

---

## CONTENT AND OPERATION

### *Lentil*

The bill designates the children's book, *Lentil*, as the official children's book of Ohio. The bill also designates *Lentil's* author, Robert McCloskey (1914-2003), who was born in Hamilton, Ohio, as the official children's book author of Ohio.<sup>1</sup>

*Lentil*, published in 1940, is set in the fictional Alto, Ohio. *Lentil* tells the adventure of a young boy who, saddened that he could not sing, learns to play the harmonica.

*Lentil* was Robert McCloskey's first published book, but he went on to write and illustrate other children's books, including *Make Way for Ducklings*, which won a Caldecott Medal in 1942.<sup>2</sup>

---

\* This analysis was prepared before the report of the House State Government and Elections Committee appeared in the House Journal. Note that the list of co-sponsors and the legislative history may be incomplete.

<sup>1</sup> R.C. 5.091.

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.ohioana-authors.org/mccloskey/highlights.php>.

---

## HISTORY

### ACTION

### DATE

Introduced  
Reported, H. State Gov't & Elections

01-19-11  
---

h0031-rh-129.docx/ks

