



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

## Bill Analysis

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### H.B. 175\*

130th General Assembly  
(As Reported by H. State and Local Government)

**Reps.** Dovilla, Fedor, Duffey, Anielski, Thompson, Becker

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## BILL SUMMARY

- Requires the Treasurer of State to establish and maintain on the Treasurer's web site the Ohio State Government Expenditure Database that includes information about expenditures state entities made in fiscal year 2014 and thereafter.
- Requires that the Database be accessible to the public at no charge.
- Requires each state entity, at least monthly and through the Ohio Administrative Knowledge System, to provide information to the Treasurer of State for inclusion in the Database regarding each of the entity's expenditures issued to a vendor for the preceding month.
- Requires the Database to include certain expenditure information and specific search and filter capabilities.
- Requires the Treasurer of State to develop and publish on the Treasurer's web site charts and graphs of data contained in the Database, to enhance and organize the data.
- Authorizes the Treasurer of State to adopt reasonable rules under the abbreviated rule-making procedure that implement, and are consistent with, the bill.
- Requires the Treasurer of State, not later than one year after the Database is implemented, to provide, on the Treasurer's web site, an opportunity for public comment as to the utility of the Database.

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

- Requires the Treasurer of State to include Database usage data in the Treasurer's annual report of transactions, proceedings, and summary of official acts of the office.
- Prohibits the Database from including any information that is determined to be confidential or is not a public record under Ohio law, but provides that the Treasurer of State and the Treasurer's employees are not liable for the disclosure of a Database record that is determined to be confidential or is not a public record under Ohio law.
- Requires each state entity to display on its web site a prominent Internet link to the Database.

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## **CONTENT AND OPERATION**

### **Ohio State Government Expenditure Database**

#### **Creation and operation of the Database**

The bill requires the Treasurer of State, not later than six months after the bill's effective date, to establish and maintain the Ohio State Government Expenditure Database. The Database must be available on the Treasurer of State's web site and must include information about expenditures state entities make in fiscal year 2014 and thereafter. The Database must be accessible by members of the public without charge. State entities are required to assist the Treasurer of State in the development, establishment, operation, storage, hosting, and support of the Database at no cost to the Treasurer of State.<sup>1</sup>

At least monthly, through the Ohio Administrative Knowledge System (OAKS),<sup>2</sup> each state entity must provide information to the Treasurer of State for inclusion in the Database regarding each of the entity's expenditures issued to a vendor for the preceding month. State entities must comply with all of the requirements of the bill using existing resources, and no state entity may charge the Treasurer of State for any costs arising from compliance with the bill.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> R.C. 113.51.

<sup>2</sup> OAKS is a statewide, web-based enterprise resource planning system that serves as the primary integrated system for performing the state's central administrative business functions. OAKS replaced the state's former accounting, human resources, and procurement and fixed asset systems, as well as the capital improvements system.

<sup>3</sup> R.C. 113.58.



## Definitions applicable to the bill

The bill applies to state entities, and defines a "state entity" as the General Assembly, the Supreme Court, the court of claims, the office of an elected state officer, and a department, bureau, board, office, commission, agency, institution, or other instrumentality of Ohio established by the Constitution or laws of Ohio for the exercise of any function of state government, but **excludes** a county, city, village, township, park district, school district, or regional transit authority, an institution of higher education, the Public Employees Retirement System, the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund, the State Teachers Retirement System, the School Employees Retirement System, the State Highway Patrol Retirement System, and the City of Cincinnati Retirement System. "State entity" does not include the nonprofit corporation known as JobsOhio or any subsidiary of JobsOhio.<sup>4</sup> The "school districts" excluded from the definition of "state entity" are city, local, exempted village, or joint vocational school districts; science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) schools; and educational service centers, but not community (charter) schools, which are state entities under the bill.<sup>5</sup>

The bill defines an "expenditure" as a payment, distribution, loan, advance, reimbursement, deposit, or gift of money from a state entity to any "vendor" and that is processed through OAKS.<sup>6</sup>

Under the bill, a "vendor" is any person, partnership, corporation, association, organization, state entity, or other party, including any executive officer, legislative officer, judicial officer, member, or employee of a state entity, that either sells, leases, or otherwise provides equipment, materials, goods, supplies, or services to a state entity pursuant to a contract between the vendor and a state entity, or receives reimbursement from a state entity for any expense.<sup>7</sup>

## Database expenditure information

For each expenditure, the Ohio State Government Expenditure Database must include the following information:

- (1) The amount of the expenditure;
- (2) The date the expenditure was paid;

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<sup>4</sup> R.C. 113.50(B) and (D).

<sup>5</sup> R.C. 113.50(C).

<sup>6</sup> R.C. 113.50(A).

<sup>7</sup> R.C. 113.50(E).

(3) The vendor to which the expenditure was paid;

(4) The state entity that made the expenditure or requested that the expenditure be made.<sup>8</sup>

### **Database features**

The Database must include the following features:

- ◆ A searchable database of all expenditures. The information of all expenditures must be provided by state entities to the Treasurer of State through the expenditure data that the bill requires state entities to provide to OAKS.

- ◆ The ability to filter expenditures by the category of expense and by the OAKS accounting code for a specific good or service.

- ◆ The ability to search and filter by any of the factors listed in (1) through (4) of "**Database expenditure information**," above;

- ◆ The ability to aggregate data contained in the database.

- ◆ The ability to determine the total amount of expenditures awarded to a vendor by a state entity.

- ◆ The ability to download information obtained through the database.

- ◆ A searchable database of state and school district employee salary and employment information. This information must be provided to the Treasurer of State by the Department of Administrative Services or the Department of Education, as applicable, with data fields provided in a format, manner, and time frame determined by the Treasurer of State.<sup>9</sup> The bill defines "school district" as city, local, exempted village, or joint vocational school districts; science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) schools; or educational service centers; but excludes community (charter) schools.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> R.C. 113.52.

<sup>9</sup> R.C. 113.53.

<sup>10</sup> R.C. 113.50(C). On the one hand, the bill excludes community schools from the school district salary and employment information that must be on the Database (R.C. 113.53). On the other hand, the bill includes community schools in the definition of the "state entities" that are required to provide information to the Treasurer of State for inclusion in the Database regarding expenditures issued to a vendor for the preceding month.

## **Charts and graphs**

The bill requires the Treasurer of State to develop and publish on the Treasurer's web site graphical representations of data contained in the Database, including charts and graphs, to enhance and organize the data. The topics illustrated by and frequency of developing and publishing these representations must be determined by the Treasurer of State.<sup>11</sup>

## **Rules for the Database**

The Treasurer of State may adopt reasonable rules under the abbreviated rule-making procedure (R.C. Chapter 111.) that implement, and are consistent with, the bill.<sup>12</sup>

## **Requirements for the Treasurer of State**

Not later than one year after the Database is implemented, the bill requires the Treasurer of State to provide, on the Treasurer's web site, an opportunity for public comment as to the utility of the database.<sup>13</sup>

The Treasurer of State must include data regarding the usage of the Database in the Treasurer's annual report of the officer's transactions and proceedings, including a summary of official acts of the office, which are required by continuing law.<sup>14</sup>

The bill prohibits the Database from including any information that is determined to be confidential or is not a public record under Ohio law. The Treasurer of State and the Treasurer's employees are not liable for the disclosure of a record contained in the Database that is determined to be confidential or is not a public record under Ohio law.<sup>15</sup>

## **Requirement for state entities**

The bill requires each state entity to display on its web site a prominent Internet link to the Database.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> R.C. 113.54.

<sup>12</sup> R.C. 113.61.

<sup>13</sup> R.C. 113.55.

<sup>14</sup> R.C. 113.57; R.C. 149.01, not in the bill.

<sup>15</sup> R.C. 113.56 and 113.59.

<sup>16</sup> R.C. 113.60.



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## HISTORY

### ACTION

Introduced  
Reported, H. State & Local Gov't

### DATE

05-22-13  
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