



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Nick Thomas

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: H.B. 52 of the 128th G.A.

Date: March 30, 2009

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor: Reps. Okey and Stebelton

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No — No local cost

Contents: Creates the Ohio Beekeepers Task Force within the Department of Agriculture

State Fiscal Highlights

STATE FUND	FY 2010	FY 2011	FUTURE YEARS
General Revenue Fund – Department of Agriculture			
Revenues	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
Expenditures	Minimal increase in administrative costs	Minimal increase in administrative costs	- 0 -

Note: The state fiscal year is July 1 through June 30. For example, FY 2010 is July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010.

- The bill creates the Ohio Beekeepers Task Force consisting of 15 members including legislators, state officials, and various local, university, and trade association representatives. The Task Force is to study and report on the declining population of the honeybee in Ohio and other related issues.
- The Department of Agriculture's Division of Plant Industry would provide administrative support to the Task Force and would likely incur some minimal GRF costs for doing so, primarily for preparing the Task Force's final report. The bill specifies that Task Force members are not to receive compensation for their services.
- Not later than ten months after the effective date of the bill, the Task Force is required to submit a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Ohio State Beekeepers Association. This would mean that administrative costs would be incurred in either or both FY 2010 and FY 2011.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill creates the 15-member Ohio Beekeepers Task Force in the Department of Agriculture. The Task Force consists of four legislators, two state officials, Ohio State University officials, a representative of the County Commissioners Association, and trade association representatives. The Task Force is charged with studying the causes and effects of honeybee population decline in Ohio. Within ten months of the bill's effective date, the Task Force must submit a final report to the Governor, the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate, and the Ohio State Beekeepers Association that:

- Summarizes the extent of the honeybee crisis in Ohio;
- Examines the effects of honeybee population levels on pollination;
- Reviews federal initiatives regarding honeybee populations;
- Overviews the Department of Agriculture's five-year goals concerning the honeybee population;
- Describes the sources of funding available for honeybee programs; and
- Raises other relevant issues.

After the initial report, the Task Force is to meet and respond to any questions from those who received the report and will cease to exist after submitting its answers to these questions. Overall, the Department of Agriculture's Division of Plant Industry would incur minimal administrative costs for supporting the Task Force, including the publication of the final report, but not for member compensation, which the bill specifically prohibits.