

Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Date:

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: Sub. H.B. 8 of the 130th G.A.

(LSC 130 0381-2)

Status: In House Education

Sponsor: Reps. Roegner and Kunze

June 4, 2013

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Revises school safety laws

State Fiscal Highlights

• No direct fiscal effect on the state.

Local Fiscal Highlights

• No direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Under current law, every school district is required to have a comprehensive school safety plan in place. The bill expressly authorizes a school district, community school, STEM school, or chartered nonpublic school board or governing authority to incorporate the designation of employees who may carry concealed handguns in a school safety zone into its school safety plan. In addition, the bill expands (1) the public records exemption for a school safety plan to include the designation of an employee authorized to carry a concealed handgun in a school safety zone and (2) the list of individuals to whom the prohibition against knowingly conveying a deadly weapon into a school safety zone to include an off-duty peace officer. It is unlikely that any of these provisions would have a significant fiscal impact on any local school district.

The bill also grants qualified civil immunity to a school district or school or governing authority and certain designated employees from civil liability for acts related to that employee's use of a handgun in a school safety zone. The previously mentioned groups are not liable in damages in a civil action for injury, death, or loss to person or property arising from a designated employee's possession or use of a handgun in compliance with the school safety plan unless any injury, death, or loss resulted from the designated employee's reckless or wanton conduct. Any ongoing savings to the local courts resulting from a potential reduction in the number of civil actions filed would be unlikely to exceed minimal. Those courts may experience a loss in court costs and filing fees, but that loss would be likely offset by the potential savings effect noted previously.

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