

Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Tom Wert

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: H.B. 324 of the 130th G.A. **Date**: January 21, 2014

Status: As Introduced Sponsor: Reps. Duffey and C. Hagan

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Creates the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program and makes an

appropriation

State Fiscal Highlights

• The bill creates the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program within the Department of Administrative Services and provides GRF funding of \$12.5 million in both FY 2015 and FY 2016 to provide grants to local governments for use in posting certain data to the Internet. Up to \$250,000 of the FY 2015 appropriation is earmarked to pay administrative costs of the program.

Local Fiscal Highlights

• Local governments that choose to participate in the program could incur costs to comply with data formatting and posting standards established by the Director of Administrative Services. These costs could be at least partially offset by a \$10,000 grant awarded under the program.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill creates the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program in the Department of Administrative Services (DAS). The program would provide grants of \$10,000 to counties, townships, and municipalities to use for posting certain data on the Internet. The bill appropriates \$12.5 million in both FY 2015 and FY 2016 from the GRF to fund the grants under appropriation item 100501, Local Government Information Exchange Grants. For FY 2015, the bill earmarks up to \$250,000 for use by the Director of Administrative Services to administer the program. Under the bill the Director is required to establish grant eligibility criteria including (1) specifying what data must be posted, (2) that the data be posted in an open format and be capable of being searched, viewed, and downloaded by the public, (3) technological standards and formatting specifications for the data, and (4) specifications for accounting standards for data provided by local governments. Local governments that choose to participate in the program could incur costs to meet these criteria. However, these costs would be at least partially offset by the grant award.

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