

Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Tom Middleton

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: Sub. H.B. 575 of the 130th G.A. **Date**: June 4, 2014

Status: As Reported by House Economic Sponsor: Reps. Baker and Anielski

Development and Regulatory Reform

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Creates the Ohio Economic Council on Women within the Development Services Agency

State Fiscal Highlights

- The bill establishes the Ohio Economic Council on Women within the Development Services Agency (DSA) to examine the economic concerns and needs of women in relation to various issues in Ohio.
- Any minimal administrative costs that DSA incurs in supporting Council meetings, assisting in the production of Council research and policy, and other staff support would likely be absorbed within DSA's existing appropriations for personnel and office costs.

Local Fiscal Highlights

No direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill creates the Ohio Economic Council on Women within the Development Services Agency (DSA). The Council is to be comprised of 15 members: (1) six members of the Ohio General Assembly, (2) four members with knowledge and experience of economic concerns of women who are jointly appointed by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives, and (3) five other appointees of the Governor representing various groups. The bill specifies that members will not be compensated for their service on the Council, but they may be reimbursed for necessary and actual expenses incurred in performing official Council duties, such as reimbursement for gasoline costs in driving to a Council meeting. The Council is required to meet at least quarterly.

Under the bill, the Council is tasked with examining the economic concerns and needs of women in relation to various issues in Ohio. In carrying out this mission, the bill requires the Council to conduct research, hold hearings, develop recommendations and policy, educate the public, and engage in other activities for the benefit of women. The bill also requires the Council to produce a report by September 1, 2016, and biennially thereafter, a report to the Governor and the General Assembly on (1) Council activities, (2) recommendations for existing resources benefitting women, (3) proposals for advancing comprehensive and coordinated services for women. The report is to be posted on the DSA website so that it is publicly available electronically.

Fiscal effect

The bill specifies that DSA is to manage the administrative duties of the Council. DSA will bear those costs under its existing budget. Although start-up costs and ongoing expenses are likely to be minimal, any costs incurred will ultimately depend on the scope of the activities pursued by the Council.

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