

As Introduced

131st General Assembly

Regular Session

2015-2016

H. B. No. 103

Representatives Pelanda, Kunze

**Cosponsors: Representatives Grossman, Dever, Duffey, Bishoff, Ruhl, Brown,
Blessing, Thompson, Leland, Antonio, Driehaus, Fedor**

A BILL

To enact sections 5.2298, 125.66, and 125.67 of the Revised Code to designate the second week of March as Ohio Womens' Week for Policy and Entrepreneurship, to create the Ohio Womens' Policy and Entrepreneurship Committee, and to require the state, in collaboration with the private sector, to conduct a two-day competition and forum each even-numbered year during the designated week.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 5.2298, 125.66, and 125.67 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:

Sec. 5.2298. The second week of March is designated as Ohio womens' week for policy and entrepreneurship.

Each even-numbered year, during Ohio womens' week for policy and entrepreneurship, the womens' policy and entrepreneurship committee, in collaboration with the private sector, shall conduct a two-day forum to shine a spotlight on women in Ohio, to encourage, inspire, and counsel women in Ohio

to develop tangible business plans, and to conduct a competition 19
in which women may present business plans to the womens' policy 20
and entrepreneurship committee. 21

Sec. 125.66. A womens' policy and entrepreneurship 22
committee shall do all of the following: 23

(A) Plan and conduct a two-day competition and forum, as 24
described in section 5.2298 of the Revised Code, to take place 25
each even-numbered year during Ohio womens' week for policy and 26
entrepreneurship; 27

(B) Establish procedures for applying to participate in 28
the competition; 29

(C) Manage the application process, review applications, 30
and approve a reasonable number of applicants to participate in 31
the competition; 32

(D) Judge the competition and select as a winner the 33
individual who presents the best viable business plan; and 34

(E) Submit a final report to the general assembly, by the 35
end of the month after the competition has been completed, that 36
summarizes the activities of the committee. 37

The individual who is selected as the winner of the March 38
2016 competition is an entrepreneur in residence under section 39
125.65 of the Revised Code, in addition to the other 40
entrepreneurs in residence appointed under that section. 41

Sec. 125.67. A womens' policy and entrepreneurship 42
committee is established each odd-numbered year. The committee 43
is composed of eleven members, who shall be appointed in March 44
of each odd-numbered year. The committee shall function for 45
approximately one year, until its duties have been completed. 46

A committee shall consist of two members of the senate, 47
who shall not be members of the same political party, appointed 48
by the president of the senate; two members of the house of 49
representatives, who shall not be members of the same political 50
party, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; 51
three individuals who are business leaders or entrepreneurs, one 52
appointed by the president of the senate, one appointed by the 53
speaker of the house of representatives, and one appointed by 54
the governor; three community leaders, one appointed by the 55
president of the senate, one appointed by the speaker of the 56
house of representatives, and one appointed by the governor; and 57
one representative of LeanOhio, appointed by the governor. The 58
winner of the most recent competition under section 125.66 of 59
the Revised Code, when willing and able, shall replace the 60
business leader or entrepreneur appointed by the governor, or, 61
if that appointment has not been made, shall be a member of the 62
committee. 63

Members of a committee shall serve on the committee until 64
the committee has completed its duties, or until the member no 65
longer meets the appointment qualifications. A vacancy on a 66
committee shall be filled in the same manner as the original 67
appointment. 68

The department of administrative services shall provide 69
the committee with meeting space and clerical staff support. 70

Members of a committee are not entitled to compensation 71
for serving on the committee. A member may continue to receive 72
the compensation applying to the member's regular employment. 73
Members of a committee are entitled to reimbursement of actual 74
and necessary expenses incurred because of their service on the 75
committee. 76

A committee ceases to exist after submitting its final 77
report to the general assembly. 78

Section 2. The appointing authorities shall appoint the 79
first Womens' Policy and Entrepreneurship Committee within sixty 80
days after the effective date of this section. The committee 81
shall begin preparation for Womens' Policy and Entrepreneurship 82
Week in 2016, and for discharging its duties pertaining thereto. 83