

I\_132\_0025-2

132nd General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2017-2018

. B. No.

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**A BILL**

To enact section 122.26 of the Revised Code to  
require the Development Services Agency to  
create, publish, and maintain an Ohio ambassador  
list consisting of persons experienced in  
conducting business in foreign markets.

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

**Section 1.** That section 122.26 of the Revised Code be  
enacted to read as follows:

Sec. 122.26. (A) The director of development services  
shall create, publish, and maintain an Ohio ambassador list  
consisting of persons who have experience conducting business in  
foreign markets and who may be interested in assisting Ohio  
businesses with one or more of the following:

(1) Establishing relationships with businesses, market or  
industry trade groups, or regulatory authorities in or of  
foreign nations;

(2) Brokering business transactions in foreign markets;

(3) Promoting the business in foreign markets; 17

(4) Securing advice and information regarding foreign 18  
languages and local business and social customs. 19

(B) The Ohio ambassador list shall be published on the web 20  
site of the development services agency in a format that 21  
includes the name, contact information, industry of expertise, 22  
and professional licenses and certifications of each person on 23  
the list and the foreign markets in which that person has 24  
relevant business experience. A person who meets the 25  
qualifications described in division (A) of this section may 26  
request to be added to the Ohio ambassador list by contacting 27  
the director. The director may recruit persons to join the Ohio 28  
ambassador list but the director shall not add any person to the 29  
list without that person's consent. The director shall remove a 30  
person from the Ohio ambassador list immediately upon that 31  
person's request. 32

(C) The director shall annually contact each person on the 33  
Ohio ambassador list to ensure that the person's information is 34  
current and to confirm that the person wants to remain on the 35  
list. If the director is unable to contact a person on the list 36  
or if the person does not respond to written, electronic, or 37  
telephone messages from the director within thirty days, the 38  
director shall remove that person from the list. A person who is 39  
removed from the Ohio ambassador list may request to be added 40  
back to the list at any time. 41

(D) Inclusion on the Ohio ambassador list is not an 42  
endorsement of that person by the agency or the state nor is it 43  
a confirmation of that person's qualifications. Neither the 44  
agency nor the state shall be liable for misfeasance, 45  
malfeasance, or nonfeasance committed by a person on the list in 46

<u>performing the services described in division (A) of this</u>	47
<u>section.</u>	48
<u>(E) Inclusion on the list, in and of itself, does not</u>	49
<u>cause the person to be an employee or agent of any state agency.</u>	50
<u>No person shall receive compensation from the agency for</u>	51
<u>agreeing to be included on the list or for performing the</u>	52
<u>services described in division (A) of this section.</u>	53