



www.lsc.ohio.gov

OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

H.B. 138
133rd General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 138's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Rogers

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Terry Steele, Senior Budget Analyst

The bill increases, from \$250 to \$500 per property owner, the estimated cost of special assessments for certain improvements to streets or ditches triggering the requirement that a municipal corporation provide notice directly to affected property owners. Increasing the dollar threshold triggering the notification requirement could reduce the number of required direct notices to homeowners and result in lower notification costs for municipalities. The extent of potential savings for municipalities would depend on how many property owners must be notified and the method of notification used.

Under current law, the property owners may be notified of these assessments by certified mail, express mail, personal service, or residence service, as is the case with service of summons in civil cases. Certified mail, a typical way of notification, costs \$4.80 with electronic delivery confirmation. While the potential cost savings for municipalities is unknowable, information in the Clark County Auditor's 2019 Special Assessment Listing can be used to illustrate the potential fiscal effects of the bill. The listing includes approximately 1,000 total parcels among the two cities and eight villages in that county that are subject to a special assessment.¹ Of that total, slightly more than 240 properties have special assessments that were greater than \$200 and less than \$500, thereby falling under the dollar threshold requiring property owner notification under the bill. However, LBO cannot calculate potential savings under the bill since we do not know how many of these assessed properties received a direct notice through either certified or express mail from the applicable municipal corporation, or that were notified of the assessment in other ways permitted by law.

HB0138IN/lb

¹ https://www.clarkcountyauditor.org/wp-content/uploads/Special_Assmt_2019-05-21.pdf.