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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

H.B. 74
133rd General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 74's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Arndt

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- Local authorities could incur some small costs for sending out the compliance notices to property owners storing junk vessels on their property. This would include the cost of sending the notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, as well as any follow through required. There might also be some additional costs for municipal courts that would handle any cases related to property owners who do not comply with the notices.
- There are 301,143 registered motor boats and 254,466 paddle craft registered in Ohio for a total of 555,609 registered watercrafts statewide. The number of junk vessels that are at least three years old, inoperable, and valued at \$1,500 or less is unknown.

Detailed Analysis

The cost associated with the bill would depend on the number of compliance notices that a local authority sends out to property owners who are storing junk vessels on their property. Specifically, the bill requires the notices to be sent via certified mail, return receipt requested. Local authorities might also incur some administrative costs for following through on these notices and verifying property owner compliance. In addition, there could be municipal court costs for any cases (minor misdemeanors punishable by a fine of up to \$150) which result from a property owner's failure to adequately cover, house, or remove the watercraft from the site. The costs for such cases would likely be minimal, and would be partially offset through fine revenue collected. In addition, there are also state court costs of \$29 for misdemeanor offenses. Of this amount, \$20 is credited to the Indigent Defense Support Fund (Fund 5DY0) and \$9 to the Victims of Crime/Reparations Fund (Fund 4020).

The prohibition in the bill applies to junk vessels or outboard motors that are three years old or older, apparently inoperable, and have a fair market value of \$1,500 or less. The number of junk watercraft that fit these criteria statewide is unknown. The Ohio Department of

Natural Resources' Division of Watercraft, however, tracks the amount of abandoned vessels in which the Division processes title searches for disposition. The Division completed 392 searches in 2017 and completed 297 such searches in 2018. Overall, there are 301,143 registered motor boats and 254,466 paddle craft registered in Ohio.