

As Introduced

**132nd General Assembly
Regular Session
2017-2018**

H. B. No. 600

Representative Barnes

A BILL

To enact section 122.863 of the Revised Code to 1
establish the "Access to Global Market 2
Opportunities for Ohio Manufactured Products 3
Program" to be composed of the "Ohio Global 4
Leadership Initiative" and the "Global 5
Initiative on International Relations" to create 6
new, untapped global markets for Ohio businesses 7
and thereby promote job creation, and to make an 8
appropriation. 9

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

Section 1. That section 122.863 of the Revised Code be 10
enacted to read as follows: 11

Sec. 122.863. (A) As used in this section: 12

(1) "Ohio commodore" means an individual appointed by the 13
governor to the executive order of the Ohio commodores, a 14
distinction founded in 1966 to honor outstanding contributions 15
to the economic development of the state. 16

(2) "District export council" means an organization of 17
business leaders in this state appointed by United States 18
secretaries of commerce to promote economic health and create 19

new higher-paying jobs by assisting small- and medium-sized 20
businesses to establish or increase export sales. 21

(3) "Education" includes both public and private 22
institutions of higher education. 23

(4) "Travel expenses" means actual and necessary traveling 24
and other expenses incurred while attending any gathering, 25
conference, retreat, or convention, or while performing official 26
duties, inside or outside this state. 27

(B) There is hereby established the access to global 28
market opportunities for Ohio manufactured products program for 29
the purpose of encouraging executive and legislative efforts to 30
promote internationally the state of Ohio and its economy, 31
diplomacy, and humanity and to align Ohio government, market, 32
and industry forces to increase Ohio businesses' access to 33
global market opportunities, thereby enhancing their competitive 34
advantage in world markets and promoting job creation in Ohio. 35

(C) (1) There is hereby created the global initiative on 36
international relations. The global initiative shall, through 37
diplomatic efforts, advance and promote Ohio's education, 38
economy, diplomacy, humanity, and legislative initiatives and 39
build and manage reciprocal relationships with foreign 40
governments as is consistent with the new integrated principle 41
of the global economy. 42

(2) The global initiative on international relations shall 43
consist of not less than twenty individuals, each of whom shall 44
hold the title "Ohio ambassador." The total number of Ohio 45
ambassadors that may be appointed shall be determined on the 46
basis of need, as influenced by the size and number of global 47
economic regions identified by the director of development 48

services. 49

(3) One-half of the Ohio ambassadors shall be appointed by 50
the speaker of the house of representatives and one-half shall 51
be appointed by the president of the senate. Two of the Ohio 52
ambassadors appointed by the speaker shall be members of the 53
house of representatives. Two of the Ohio ambassadors appointed 54
by the president of the senate shall be members of the senate. 55
All of the remaining Ohio ambassadors shall be Ohio commodores. 56
Appointment as an Ohio ambassador is not the holding of a public 57
office for the purposes of Section 4 of Article II, Ohio 58
Constitution. Ohio ambassadors serve at the pleasure of their 59
appointing authority. 60

(4) Ohio ambassadors shall not be paid for their service, 61
but may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in 62
carrying out their duties under this section. An Ohio ambassador 63
who is a member of the house of representatives shall not be 64
reimbursed under this division for travel expenses unless the 65
member obtains written approval from the governor and the 66
speaker of the house of representatives before traveling. An 67
Ohio ambassador who is a member of the senate shall not be 68
reimbursed under this division for travel expenses unless the 69
member obtains written approval from the governor and the 70
president of the senate before traveling. 71

For the purposes of reimbursing Ohio ambassadors under 72
this division, the initiative may seek federal grants available 73
for promoting reciprocal commerce. Such grants shall be 74
deposited to the credit of the Ohio ambassador fund, which is 75
hereby created in the state treasury, to be used for the 76
purposes of division (C) of this section. The fund may also 77
consist of private donations or deposits to the fund by federal, 78

state, or local government. 79

(D) (1) Within the development services agency, there is 80
hereby created the Ohio global leadership initiative. The 81
initiative shall build models of opportunity to facilitate Ohio 82
businesses' entry or expansion into foreign markets, thereby 83
enhancing Ohio businesses' competitive advantage in world 84
markets and promoting job creation in Ohio. 85

(2) The director of development services shall designate 86
select members of Ohio district export councils to serve as 87
"Ohio business consulates." Ohio business consulates shall 88
assist Ohio businesses in establishing relationships with 89
foreign businesses, market or industry trade groups, or 90
regulatory authorities; brokering business transactions in 91
foreign markets; promoting the business in foreign markets; or 92
securing advice and information regarding foreign languages and 93
local business and social customs. 94

(3) Ohio business consulates shall report to the director 95
of development services on all activities related to the 96
position and the value of any transaction facilitated by the 97
consulate. Consulate reports shall be filed at intervals and in 98
a manner to be determined by the director. The director, within 99
a reasonable period of time after the effective date of the 100
enactment of this section, shall develop and make available to 101
consulates an electronic method for filing the reports required 102
by this division. 103

(4) The designation of an individual as an Ohio business 104
consulate does not, in and of itself, cause the individual to be 105
an employee or agent of any state agency. No individual shall 106
receive compensation from any state agency for services 107
performed as a consulate. 108

(5) An agreement shall be required for Ohio business 109
consulates to legally bind Ohio businesses with respect to 110
certain issues to be determined by the director of development 111
services and the attorney general, including the license or sale 112
of intellectual property, trademarks, and copyrights. 113

(6) The director of development services shall adopt rules 114
under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to administer this 115
section. 116

(E) The access to global market opportunities for Ohio 117
manufactured products program, through the individual efforts of 118
the global initiative on international relations and the Ohio 119
leadership global initiative, shall strive to achieve the 120
following goals: 121

(1) Facilitating logistics for Ohio businesses seeking to 122
use foreign ports and for foreign businesses seeking to use Ohio 123
ports; 124

(2) Enhancing industry development for Ohio's chief 125
twenty-five industries, as determined by the director of 126
development services; 127

(3) Promoting reciprocal trade activities, such as trade 128
shows; 129

(4) Holding an annual industry-sponsored reception in the 130
District of Columbia, hosting government and business 131
representatives from key foreign nations; 132

(5) Enhancing and promoting Ohio's industry of partial 133
manufacturing; 134

(6) Attraction of foreign investment to Ohio; 135

(7) Educational exchange. 136

(F) The director of development services shall publish an 137
Ohio international trade booklet, which shall list businesses in 138
Ohio that could be suppliers to international markets, arranged 139
according to each industry's North American industry 140
classification system. The booklet shall be published and 141
updated as often as the director finds desirable. The costs of 142
publishing the booklet may be paid by fees charged to businesses 143
requesting to be listed in the booklet and from any other fund 144
available for the purpose. If fees paid by such businesses 145
exceed the costs of publication, the director may direct that 146
the excess shall be deposited in the Ohio ambassador fund 147
created by division (C) of this section. 148

(G) Nothing in this section exempts Ohio ambassadors or 149
Ohio business consulates from any federal, state, or local law. 150

Section 2. All items in this section are hereby 151
appropriated as designated out of any moneys in the state 152
treasury to the credit of the designated fund. For all 153
appropriations made in this act, those in the first column are 154
for fiscal year 2018 and those in the second column are for 155
fiscal year 2019. The appropriations made in this act are in 156
addition to any other appropriations made for the FY 2018-FY 157
2019 biennium. 158

DEV DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGENCY 159

Dedicated Purpose Fund Group 160

5XXX	195XXX	Access to Global Markets	\$100,000	\$0	161
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Total DPF	Dedicated Purpose Fund Group	\$100,000	\$0	162
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TOTAL ALL BUDGET FUND GROUPS	\$100,000	\$0	163
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ACCESS TO GLOBAL MARKETS 164

On July 1, 2017, or as soon as possible thereafter, the 165
Director of Budget and Management shall transfer \$100,000 cash 166
from the General Revenue Fund to the Ohio Ambassador Fund, 167
established in section 122.863 of the Revised Code. 168

The foregoing appropriation item 195XXX, Access to Global 169
Markets, shall be used for the Access to Global Market 170
Opportunities for Ohio Manufactured Products Program as 171
described in section 122.863 of the Revised Code, and 172
specifically for the purposes identified under division (E) of 173
section 122.863 of the Revised Code. 174

Section 3. Within the limits set forth in this act, the 175
Director of Budget and Management shall establish accounts 176
indicating the source and amount of funds for each appropriation 177
made in this act and shall determine the form and manner in 178
which appropriation accounts shall be maintained. Expenditures 179
from appropriations contained in this act shall be accounted for 180
as though made in the main operating appropriations act of the 181
132nd General Assembly. 182

The appropriations made in this act are subject to all 183
provisions of the main operating appropriations act of the 132nd 184
General Assembly that are generally applicable to such 185
appropriations. 186