

As Reported by the House Arts, Athletics, and Tourism Committee

136th General Assembly

Regular Session

2025-2026

Sub. H. B. No. 255

Representatives Jarrells, Miller, M.

Cosponsors: Representatives Brennan, Russo, Santucci, Robb Blasdel, McNally

To enact sections 122.123 and 122.124 of the 1
Revised Code to create the Ohio Sports Council. 2

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

Section 1. That sections 122.123 and 122.124 of the 3
Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 4

Sec. 122.123. (A) As used in this section and section 5
122.124 of the Revised Code, "sport" has the same meaning as in 6
section 122.12 of the Revised Code. 7

(B) The Ohio sports council is created within the 8
department of development. The purpose of the council is to 9
assess the economic impacts of sporting events in this state and 10
make recommendations to the general assembly regarding policies 11
that can expand the sporting event economy in this state. 12

(C) The council shall consist of the following fourteen 13
members: 14

(1) Two members of the senate appointed by the president 15
of the senate, one of whom shall be recommended by the minority 16
leader of the senate; 17

(2) Two members of the house of representatives appointed 18

by the speaker of the house of representatives, one of whom 19
shall be recommended by the minority leader of the house of 20
representatives; 21

(3) One member that represents convention and visitors' 22
bureaus in this state, appointed by the speaker of the house of 23
representatives; 24

(4) One member that represents convention and visitors' 25
bureaus in this state, appointed by the president of the senate; 26

(5) One member that represents local sports commissions 27
throughout the state, appointed by the governor; 28

(6) One member that represents local sports commissions 29
throughout the state, appointed by the speaker of the house of 30
representatives; 31

(7) One member that represents local sports commission 32
throughout the state, appointed by the president of the senate; 33

(8) Three members that represent sports facilities that 34
host events in this state, including at least one member that 35
represents a national collegiate athletic association or 36
professional sports venue, appointed by the governor; 37

(9) One member that represents professional or amateur 38
sports governance organizations, such as the national collegiate 39
athletic association or a professional sports team, appointed by 40
the speaker of the house of representatives; 41

(10) One member that represents professional or amateur 42
sports governance organizations, such as the national collegiate 43
athletic association or a professional sports team, appointed by 44
the president of the senate. 45

(D) The members of the council shall be appointed within 46

thirty days after the commencement of the first regular session 47
of each general assembly, and shall serve until the expiration 48
of the session of the general assembly during which they were 49
appointed. Members of the council who are also members of the 50
general assembly shall only be members of the council as long as 51
they hold the office of member of the general assembly. A 52
vacancy on the council shall be filled in the same manner as the 53
original appointment. 54

(E) Members of the council shall serve without 55
compensation, but shall be reimbursed for the actual and 56
necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official 57
duties. 58

(F) Subject to the availability of funding, the council 59
may appoint such employees as it considers necessary to carry 60
out its duties under this section and section 122.124 of the 61
Revised Code. The department of development shall provide office 62
space and meeting areas for the council. 63

(G) The council shall elect a chairperson at its first 64
meeting, and biannually thereafter. The council shall meet at 65
the call of its chairperson to conduct its official business. A 66
majority of the members of the council constitutes a quorum. The 67
vote of at least nine members of the council is necessary for 68
the council to take any official action. 69

Sec. 122.124. The Ohio sports council created under 70
section 122.123 of the Revised Code shall partner and coordinate 71
with the department of taxation, local sports commissions, 72
convention and visitors' bureaus, chambers of commerce, 73
municipal corporations, venues, and appropriate stakeholders to 74
assess the following: 75

<u>(A) State tax revenue received through direct participation in sporting events;</u>	76 77
<u>(B) State tax revenue received through indirect economic activities in relation to sporting events;</u>	78 79
<u>(C) Local tax revenue received through direct participation in sporting events;</u>	80 81
<u>(D) Local tax revenue received through indirect economic activities in relation to sporting events;</u>	82 83
<u>(E) Incremental increases of state and local tax revenue derived from sporting events that choose to locate in this state rather than out of state;</u>	84 85 86
<u>(F) Marketing benefits to this state and the local community hosting sporting events, as determined by the council;</u>	87 88
<u>(G) Other economic impact indicators as determined by the council.</u>	89 90