

**As Passed by the House**

**136th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2025-2026**

**Am. H. B. No. 297**

**Representatives Ritter, Newman**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Richardson, Mathews, T., Lawson-Rowe, Dovilla, Ghanbari, Hall, D., Lampton, McNally, Abrams, Barhorst, Bird, Brennan, Brent, Brewer, Bryant Bailey, Claggett, Click, Deeter, Glassburn, Gross, Hall, T., Hiner, Holmes, Hoops, Humphrey, Isaacsohn, John, Kishman, Klopfenstein, Lett, Miller, J., Miller, M., Odioso, Oelslager, Piccolantonio, Plummer, Ray, Robb Blasdel, Roemer, Russo, Salvo, Schmidt, Sigrist, Sims, Stewart, Thomas, C., Tims, Troy, Upchurch, White, A., White, E., Workman, Young**

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| To amend section 307.66 of the Revised Code to | 1 |
| increase the amount a county may provide to    | 2 |
| military and veterans organizations, and civic | 3 |
| organizations, for Memorial Day expenses.      | 4 |

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

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| <b>Section 1.</b> That section 307.66 of the Revised Code be | 5 |
| amended to read as follows:                                  | 6 |

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| <b>Sec. 307.66.</b> The board of county commissioners, annually,                  | 7  |
| shall appropriate, and advance upon application made no more                      | 8  |
| than one hundred twenty days prior to memorial day, to each                       | 9  |
| garrison or naval branch of the Army and Navy Union, U.S.A. and                   | 10 |
| to each chartered post, garrison, or naval branch of any                          | 11 |
| organization of veterans recognized and chartered by the                          | 12 |
| congress, upon request of their officials, in the county, a sum                   | 13 |
| of money not to exceed <del>five hundred</del> <u>one thousand</u> dollars to aid | 14 |
| in defraying the expenses of memorial day.                                        | 15 |

Each such organization applying for an advance of funds 16  
shall submit with its application a statement of expenses 17  
incurred up to the time the application for an advance is 18  
submitted. Each such organization receiving money from this 19  
appropriation shall file a sworn statement accounting for the 20  
complete expenditures of the funds with the board within sixty 21  
days after the memorial day for which the funds were provided. 22  
Any unexpended funds shall be returned to the board of county 23  
commissioners within this period. Any organization failing to 24  
file a sworn statement within the prescribed time accounting for 25  
the complete expenditure of the funds shall not be eligible to 26  
receive an appropriation the following year. Two or more 27  
separate veterans' organizations, or two or more posts, 28  
garrisons, or naval branches of one or more veterans' 29  
organizations, or both, may pool their entitlements to funds and 30  
submit a joint or consolidated statement of expenses. Allowable 31  
items shall include expenses for arrangement of, support of, or 32  
participation in, local or countywide observances as may be 33  
desirable in the community; expenses for mapping, marking, and 34  
decorating graves of veterans; and other items incidental to 35  
these expenses. 36

The board of township trustees may, on or before the 37  
fifteenth day of May in each year, appropriate a sum to be 38  
determined by the board for each post within the township, from 39  
the general expense fund of the township, for the purpose of 40  
properly observing memorial day within the township, and if any 41  
post is located within the township, the appropriation shall be 42  
made to that post. Any municipal corporation located within a 43  
township may cooperate with the township, or with the county, in 44  
observing memorial day, and the legislative authority of the 45  
municipal corporation may make the necessary appropriation for 46

the observance. 47

If any posts have become extinct or unable to attend to 48  
memorial day services, the appropriation by the board of county 49  
commissioners or the board of township trustees shall be made to 50  
a post or unit of the sons of union veterans of the civil war, 51  
woman's relief corps, or daughters of veterans, or to any civic 52  
or patriotic organization willing and able to undertake and 53  
perform the work of commemoration and observance of memorial 54  
day. If the appropriation by the board of county commissioners 55  
is made to a civic organization, it shall not exceed ~~one~~two 56  
hundred dollars. 57

**Section 2.** That existing section 307.66 of the Revised 58  
Code is hereby repealed. 59