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H.B. 565
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Passed by the House

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Jarrells and Odioso

Daniel DeSantis, Research Analyst

SUMMARY

- Exempts from disclosure under Public Records Law, the name and address of a grand juror and the signature of a grand-jury foreperson.
- Names the bill the "Grand Jury Privacy and Protection Act."

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Ohio Public Records Law

The bill exempts from disclosure under Ohio Public Records Law, the name of a grand juror, the address of the actual personal residence of a grand juror, and the signature of a grand-jury foreperson, who has been impaneled by an Ohio Court of Common Pleas, and who has sworn the required oath.[1] This provision does not apply to a grand jury impaneled for a federal case, which is not subject to state law.

Continuing law requires that, upon request by any person, all public records responsive to the request must be promptly prepared and made available for inspection and copying. If a public record contains information that is exempt from this duty, the public office must make available all of the information within the public record that is not exempt. If a document is a public record and is not exempt from the definition of a public record, the public office generally must permit its inspection or copying. The bill, by exempting the aforementioned grand juror information, establishes that this information is not obtainable through a public records request.

The bill is entitled the "Grand Jury Privacy and Protection Act."[2]

[1] R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(ccc); R.C. 2939.06, not in the bill.

[2] Section 3.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	11-04-25
Reported, H. Judiciary	05-20-26
Passed House (96-0)	05-20-26

ANHB0565PH-136/ar