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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

S.B. 268
136th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for S.B. 268's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Sens. Lang and Cutrona

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- The Ohio Ethics Commission will incur costs that could reach into the tens of thousands of dollars or more to develop and maintain the disclosure website required by the bill. The exact cost will depend on various factors including current technological and staff capabilities.
- The bill is likely to generate minimal administrative costs for state agencies as they comply with new disclosure and rulemaking requirements.

Detailed Analysis

Ohio Ethics Commission disclosure website

The Ohio Ethics Commission will incur costs that could reach into the tens of thousands of dollars or more to create and maintain a publicly accessible website required under the bill. The website must be capable of receiving, organizing, and publishing annual disclosure reports from all state agencies, which will require some level of system development and ongoing support. This includes building a submission interface, structuring data for public display, and ensuring the site meets state standards for accessibility and security. The exact cost will depend on various factors including current technological and staff capabilities. After the initial build, ongoing maintenance costs are expected to be minimal.

State agency administrative workload

State agencies are likely to incur minimal administrative cost increases under the bill. These costs stem from preparing the annual disclosures required for regulatory-focused nongovernmental organization activity, including reporting funding, travel, committee participation, and the use of model language in rulemaking. Agencies will also need to manage a

larger volume of public records, as the bill designates all communications with regulatory-focused nongovernmental organizations as public records.

Additional costs may arise when agencies adopt model language through the abbreviated rulemaking procedure. In these cases, agencies must provide 60-day public notice, hold a public hearing, convene an advisory committee, and post the committee's report. This work is expected to rely on existing legal, administrative, and rulemaking staff, and for most agencies, the added workload is likely to be absorbed within current operating resources.