



www.lsc.ohio.gov

# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

S.B. 272  
(1\_136\_1952-1)  
136<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

## Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for S.B. 272's Bill Analysis](#)

**Version:** In Senate Education

**Primary Sponsor:** Sen. Koehler

**Local Impact Statement Procedure Required:** No

Patrick Campbell, Budget Analyst

### Highlights

- Districts and schools that serve students in grades 9-12 may incur minimal administrative costs to administer and score the civics portion of the U.S. naturalization test to students beginning in FY 2028, as the bill requires the test be taken as a high school graduation requirement starting that year.

### Detailed Analysis

The bill requires high school students to take a civics assessment as a graduation requirement beginning in the 2027-2028 school year. Under the bill, this assessment must be identical to the civics portion of the naturalization test used by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Agency (USCIS) for a person to become a naturalized citizen of the United States, and a student must score at least 60% on the exam to pass. A student who does not pass can retake the assessment until they receive a passing score. The bill requires, to the extent possible, a district or school to administer the test in the required American government class and in grades 11 or 12. The requirement would first apply to the class of 2028. The bill requires districts and schools to administer this assessment in a multiple-choice format on paper or online.

Districts and schools may incur some minimal administrative costs in preparing and scoring the exams. The naturalization test is typically administered orally to prospective U.S. citizens, using up to 20 out of 128 possible questions. USCIS publishes the complete set of test questions and acceptable answers publicly on its website.<sup>1</sup> Because the exam's questions already exist, districts and schools will not incur any costs to develop the assessment's questions. Districts and schools may incur certain costs to administer the test on paper or electronically. Districts and

---

<sup>1</sup> See USCIS's [2025 Civics Questions and Answers \(PDF\)](#).

schools will likely leverage existing resources to prepare the exams, such as paper, printers, computers, and online resources, incurring minimal costs to administer the assessment.