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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
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Office

S.B. 278
136th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for S.B. 278's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Passed by the Senate

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Johnson

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Keegan Kennedy, Budget Analyst

The bill is not expected to have beyond an indirect fiscal effect on the state's political subdivisions. There would be no impact to state agencies. The bill expands the nature of damages an individual may seek against a municipal corporation that enacts or enforces gun control measures to include punitive or exemplary damages. The bill does not alter an injured party's ability to file a civil action but changes the type of civil penalty the courts may assess.

Under current law, a person, group, or entity adversely affected by any manner of ordinance, rule, regulation, resolution, practice, or other action enacted or enforced by a political subdivision in conflict with the U.S. Constitution, Ohio Constitution, state law, or federal law, may bring a civil action against the political subdivision seeking damages from the political subdivision, declaratory relief, injunctive relief, or a combination of those remedies. That said, to the extent that cases are currently filed or may be filed in the future in a court of competent jurisdiction and an actor is found to be in violation, those entities could be subjected to punitive or exemplary damages, as authorized under the bill.