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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
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Office

S.B. 298
136th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for S.B. 298's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Romanchuk

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Kyuhan Choi, Economist

Highlights

- The bill establishes requirements related to virtual net metering, requiring the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) to adopt rules to administer virtual net metering and meter aggregation. The bill may increase PUCO's administrative costs to regulate virtual net metering systems but has no direct fiscal effect to local governments.

Detailed Analysis

The bill establishes a framework for virtual net metering (VNM) that allows VNM customers (including entities such as hospitals and other qualifying users, but not residential customers) to receive credits for electricity generated by a VNM system located on eligible sites such as brownfields, landfills, mines, county land reutilization corporation properties, disposal systems, or commercial/industrial rooftops. Unlike traditional net metering, VNM systems are not required to be located on the customer's premises, and residential customers are prohibited from participating or being charged any VNM-related costs. The bill also requires that each VNM system should serve only one VNM customer. Utilities must offer a standard VNM contract or tariff, calculate net electricity based on the difference between a customer's usage and the electricity attributed to the customer from a VNM system, and apply any excess generation credits only to the customer's generation and transmission charges. The bill also permits VNM customers to aggregate meters within the same electric service territory.

The bill requires the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) to adopt rules to administer VNM and meter aggregation. The bill may increase PUCO's administrative costs to regulate VNM systems, including contract or tariff and measurement of net electricity supplied or generated for virtual net metering customers. The bill has no direct fiscal effect on local governments.