

**As Introduced**

**136th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2025-2026**

**S. B. No. 333**

**Senator Blackshear**

**Cosponsors: Senators Antonio, DeMora, Craig**

---

To enact section 107.38 of the Revised Code to  
establish the Statewide Youth Council in the  
Office of the Governor.

1  
2  
3

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 107.38 of the Revised Code be  
enacted to read as follows:

4  
5

**Sec. 107.38.** (A) The statewide youth council is  
established in the office of the governor. The council shall  
advise the governor and the general assembly on legislation and  
issues that affect youth in the state.

6  
7  
8  
9

(B) The council shall annually, not later than the first  
day of March, submit to the governor, and to the general  
assembly under section 101.68 of the Revised Code,  
recommendations for policies to address issues that affect youth  
in the state.

10  
11  
12  
13  
14

(C) The council may do both or either of the following:

15

(1) Participate in legislative advocacy through lobbying  
the general assembly;

16  
17

(2) Seek public engagement and input with the goal of

18

shaping public policy and recommending legislation to address 19  
issues that affect youth in the state. 20

(D) (1) The council shall consist of twenty residents of 21  
this state who attend a school in this state, who are appointed 22  
by the governor. A student who wishes to serve on the council 23  
may submit an application to the office of the governor. The 24  
governor shall create an application form and make the form 25  
available on the internet web site of the office of the 26  
governor. Applications shall be submitted in a manner prescribed 27  
by the governor. Appointments to serve on the council shall be 28  
made by the first day of July before the start of the school 29  
year. 30

(2) A student who will be at least fourteen years of age, 31  
but not more than eighteen years of age, upon the start of the 32  
upcoming school year may apply for a seat on the statewide youth 33  
council. 34

(3) Not later than the first day of July following the 35  
effective date of this section, the governor shall appoint ten 36  
applicants to serve on the statewide youth council for a term of 37  
one school year and ten applicants to serve on the council for a 38  
term of two school years. Thereafter, annually, not later than 39  
the first day of July, the governor shall select ten applicants 40  
to serve a term of two school years. If a seat on the council is 41  
vacated, the governor shall appoint a replacement to serve the 42  
remainder of the term from among the most recent applicants. A 43  
seat on the council is automatically vacated upon the seat 44  
holder's withdrawal from school or graduation from high school. 45

(E) The governor shall select an employee of the office of 46  
the governor to serve as chairperson of the council, who shall 47  
serve in a nonvoting capacity with respect to matters before the 48

council. The council shall meet at least twice per month at the 49  
call of the chairperson. The council is a public body under 50  
section 121.221 of the Revised Code and may hold, and members 51  
may attend, meetings by means of video conference or any other 52  
similar electronic technology in accordance with that section. 53

(F) A majority of the members of the council constitutes a 54  
quorum, and a majority vote of the participating members is 55  
necessary to advance a policy or approve an action to be 56  
undertaken by the council. 57

(G) Members of the council are not entitled to 58  
compensation for service on the council but may be compensated 59  
for necessary and actual expenses in service of the council, 60  
provided that the chairperson of the council has approved 61  
expenses in advance. 62