



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Joseph Rogers

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: S.B. 307 of the 132nd G.A.

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor: Sen. Obhof

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Subject: Eliminates rule of construction for determining legislative intent when statute ambiguous

As the bill appears unlikely to change the manner in which a court deliberates when interpreting an ambiguous statute, it should have no direct fiscal effect on the state or political subdivisions. The bill removes R.C. 1.49, which provides six factors that a court may use in determining the legislative intent underlying an ambiguous statute. This existing provision of law does not require a court to use these factors. Before the provision's enactment, Ohio's courts used these factors as part of judicial custom and precedent to interpret ambiguous laws. Thus, its elimination does not prohibit a court from considering these six factors in the future.