



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments*

Sam Benham

H.B. 531

132nd General Assembly
(S. Finance)

Limits the amount of a sports event grant that may be awarded for a single event to the lesser of \$2 million or the grant recipient's costs to host the event pursuant to an agreement with the event's sponsor ("qualifying costs"). (The House had removed current law's \$500,000 per-event grant limitation.)

Creates a new fund to receive appropriations to fund the grants and limits the fund's balance to \$10 million, except for refunds of excess grants.

Requires (1) a grant applicant to furnish estimates of its qualifying costs and (2) a grant recipient to provide financial statements verifying its qualifying costs.

Allows an event commemorating the centennial founding of a football league to qualify for a grant even if the event's location is not competitively bid. (Other sports events must be competitively bid to qualify for a grant.)

Removes a provision that had required transfers of sales tax receipts to the grant program upon the award of a grant.

Appropriates \$5 million in fiscal year 2019 from the General Revenue Fund to fund the grant program.