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H.B. 335
134th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Schmidt

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SUMMARY

- Requires the Ohio Ethics Commission to post on its website financial disclosure statements filed with it by certain persons.
- Makes an appropriation.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Posting financial disclosure statements

The bill requires the Ohio Ethics Commission to post online the financial disclosure documents that have been filed by a person who holds an elective office while the person holds that office, and by an administrative department head while the person holds that position.¹

Continuing law requires that certain public officials, including all people elected to or running for any state, county, or city office, file a financial disclosure statement with the appropriate ethics commission. The financial disclosure statement is comprehensive, requiring disclosure of income sources, property interests, debts, investments, and other things.² Under continuing law, these disclosures are public records, and are subject to public inspection at locations designated by the appropriate ethics commission.³

¹ R.C. 102.07, with a conforming change in R.C. 102.02. For a list of administrative department heads, see R.C. 121.03, not in the bill.

² For a list of persons required to file a financial disclosure statement, and for a description of what the statement requires, please see R.C. 102.02.

³ R.C. 102.07. The stricken language in R.C. 102.02 has not been removed from law, but merely moved to R.C. 102.07(B)(1).

The bill requires the Ohio Ethics Commission to make certain of these financial disclosure statements available to the public on the Commission’s website as soon as is practicable after the statement is filed. This does not apply to every person who must file a statement. Rather, it only applies to a person who holds an elective office (and not a candidate, for instance), and administrative department heads (colloquially called the “cabinet”). The statements must only be published online while the person holds the office.⁴

Appropriation

Makes an appropriation.⁵

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	06-07-21

H0335-I-134/ec

⁴ R.C. 102.07.

⁵ Sections 3, 4, and 5.