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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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Office

H.B. 39
134th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 39's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Sobecki and A. Miller

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- The bill would increase the share of GRF tax revenue transferred to the Public Library Fund (PLF, Fund 7065) by 0.33 percentage point, or about \$88 million per year (based on the FY 2023 appropriation amount). GRF tax revenue generally tends to increase from year to year, and this increased PLF funding would also tend to grow in future years.
- The additional funding would be distributed equally to all libraries statewide that are eligible to receive funds from the PLF under current law.
- The added funds could be used for purposes listed in the bill and for any other lawful purpose.
- The Department of Taxation and counties may incur additional administrative costs to implement these provisions.
- The bill, introduced in February 2021, amends H.B. 166 of the 133rd General Assembly, the main operating budget of the General Assembly prior to the current one, and would need to be amended if it is to be enacted.

Detailed Analysis

The bill divides the PLF into a general account and a supplemental account. In codified law, the bill increases the share of GRF tax revenue directed to the PLF from 1.66% to 1.99%, an increase of 0.33 percentage point. Its amendment of H.B. 166 increased the PLF share from 1.7% to 2.03%, also an increase of 0.33 percentage point, in FY 2021, now ended, to which that bill applied. The increment to PLF funding was directed to the supplemental account, with the rest of PLF funding to be paid to the general account.

Money in the PLF general account is to be used as provided under current law. Money in the supplemental account is to be divided equally among all libraries eligible to receive distributions from the PLF. This distribution to counties and thence to the libraries in each county could be quite different from the distribution from the general account.

The bill provides that a library may use distributions from the supplemental account for library modernization, after-school programs, cultural programs, workforce development, community engagement, technology improvements, innovation projects, language services, or literacy programs, in addition to any other lawful purpose.

As noted above, the bill amends H.B. 166 of the 133rd General Assembly, the main operating budget of that General Assembly, changing appropriations for FY 2021 and making other changes to law governing a year that is ended. The bill could not be implemented as written, and would need to be amended in order to be enacted.