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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

S.B. 250
135th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for S.B. 250's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Reineke

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- The bill's requirements may increase expenditures, likely minimal, for the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO). Any increase in PUCO expenditures would be paid from the Public Utilities Fund (Fund 5F60).

Detailed Analysis

Wayside detector systems

The bill creates requirements for the installation of wayside detector systems (WDS) based on federal classification of railroad companies. The bill specifies that any person responsible for the installation of WDS alongside or on a railroad must ensure that each system location is within the bill's designated spacing requirements. The bill provides exemptions to the spacing requirements under certain circumstances.

The bill specifies that the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) must ensure that (1) the manner in which WDS are installed and placed, and (2) the manner in which WDS messages are sent and received, both comply with the bill's requirements. Please refer to the LSC bill analysis for a detailed description of provisions in the bill.

Train derailments review

The bill requires PUCO, by not later than December 31, 2028, to complete a review of train derailments in Ohio using statistics from the Federal Railroad Administration to identify derailments due to bearing or axle failure over the three years preceding the bill's effective date. PUCO must send a copy of the review to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the minority leaders of both the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Fiscal effect

The bill may increase expenditures, likely minimal, for PUCO to review train derailments in the state. PUCO expenditures would be paid from the Public Utilities Fund (Fund 5F60).