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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
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Synopsis of House Committee Amendments

(This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the House Floor.)

S.B. 94 of the 135th General Assembly

House Finance

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Campus accountability and modernization

Policy on harassment and intimidation

- Requires state institutions of higher education and private for-profit colleges to adopt and enforce a policy on racial, religious, and ethnic harassment and intimidation that includes related training, complaint procedures, the creation of an anti-hate task force, and collaboration to increase security.
- Requires private nonprofit institutions of higher education to adopt and enforce a policy on racial and ethnic harassment and intimidation that includes related training, complaint procedures, the creation of an anti-hate task force, and collaboration to increase security.

Committee on harassment and intimidation

- Requires the Chancellor of Higher Education to establish a committee on combating antisemitism and other forms of racial, religious, and ethnic harassment and intimidation.

Harassment and intimidation reports

- Requires each institution of higher education to submit an annual report to the Chancellor of Higher Education of all harassment and intimidation reports submitted to the federal government consistent with the federal Clery Act.

Time, place, and manner restrictions

- Requires each state institution of higher education to publicize any time, place, or manner restrictions it places on its students' expressive activities.

Campus programs

- Requires the Chancellor to establish and administer the Campus Student Safety Grant Program to award grants to institutions of higher education to enhance security measures and increase student safety.

- Appropriates \$1 million in FY 2025 to support the program.
- Requires the Chancellor to establish and administer the Campus Community Grant Program to award grants to institutionally sanctioned student organizations at institutions of higher education to support intergroup and interfaith outreach and cultural competency between institutionally sanctioned student organizations.
- Appropriates \$1 million in FY 2025 to support the program.
- Establishes the Campus Security Support Program under which the Chancellor must distribute funds to institutionally sanctioned student organizations affiliated with communities at risk for increased threats of violent crime, terror attacks, hate crimes, or harassment to enhance security measures and increase student safety.
- Appropriates \$2 million in FY 2025 to the program.

Bill title

- Entitles this portion of the bill the Campus Accountability and Modernization to Protect University Students “CAMPUS” Act.

Financial cost and aid disclosure form

- Requires state universities and community colleges to provide a financial cost and aid disclosure form to newly admitted students.

Educator preparation program report

- Requires the Chancellor of Higher Education, in conjunction with the Department of Education and Workforce, to conduct a survey of educator preparation programs and to issue recommendations via a report.
- Appropriates \$150,000 for this purpose.

Filing of pleadings in electronic format in common pleas court

- Requires the clerk of a common pleas court to determine whether the filing of pleadings or documents in electronic format may be accomplished by electronic mail or through the use of an online platform.
- Prohibits the clerk from doing the following:
 - Requiring that any fee for such filing be paid before the filing, unless the clerk has provided for an electronic payment system for such filing.
 - Requiring a fee for such filing that is greater than the applicable fee for the filing of pleadings or documents in paper format.
- Provides that its provisions do not apply to a probate court or juvenile court.

Filing of pleadings in municipal court or county court

- Provides that, beginning not later than 270 days after the bill's effective date, pleadings or documents may be filed with the clerk of a municipal court or the clerk of a county court either in paper format or in electronic format.
- Stipulates that documents created by such clerk in the exercise of the clerk's duties may be created in an electronic format.
- Requires the clerk of a municipal court or county court to determine whether the filing of pleadings or documents in electronic format may be accomplished by electronic mail or through the use of an online platform.
- Prohibits such clerk from doing the following:
 - Requiring that any fee for such filing be paid before the filing, unless the clerk has provided for an electronic payment system for such filing.
 - Requiring a fee for such filing that is greater than the applicable fee for the filing of pleadings or documents in paper format.

Clerks of court authorization

- Removes the requirement that funds for the computerization of municipal and common pleas court clerks' offices be authorized and disbursed by the court, and instead permits the clerk to do so if the clerk has been elected.
- Removes the requirement that funds for the computerization of county court clerks' offices be authorized and disbursed by the court, and instead permits the clerk to do so.
- Specifies that, in a county in which the clerk of the court of common pleas is appointed, the county executive must authorize and disburse those funds

Municipal and county court additional fee increase

- Permits municipal and county courts to increase the maximum amount of their additional fees from \$10 to \$20 to cover the computerization of the clerk's office.

Liquor Control laws

A-3a liquor permit: manufacturing limit

- Revises the limit on the gallons of spirituous liquor that a micro-distillery (A-3a liquor permit holder) may manufacture each year as follows:
 - Increases the amount from less than 100,000 gallons to any amount if the micro-distillery is issued an A-3a permit prior to the bill's effective date, regardless of whether the permit premises location or the premises' ownership is transferred and the permit holder is issued a new A-3a permit after the bill's effective date.
 - Retains the 100,000 gallon limit for a distiller that begins manufacturing spirituous liquor under an A-3a permit on and after the bill's effective date.

Tasting samples of spirituous liquor

- Requires tasting samples of spirituous liquor, when provided at a liquor agency store, to be provided for free, rather than requiring at least a 50¢ charge for each tasting sample as under current law.

Grains of paradise as adulterated alcohol

- Removes grains of paradise from the list of substances that are prohibited for use in and considered an adulterating agent to spirituous liquor, alcoholic liquor, or beer.

Community reinvestment areas

- Clarifies a law that allows political subdivisions that enter into a community reinvestment area (CRA) property tax exemption agreement to claw back exempted taxes if the property does not comply with the agreement.

Law enforcement tows

- Emphasizes that the owner or lienholder of a motor vehicle towed by law enforcement is responsible for any expenses and charges incurred in the towing and storage of the motor vehicle.

Documentary service charges

- Increases the maximum documentary service charge that may be imposed as part of the sale or lease of a motor vehicle.
- Requires the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to annually determine an updated maximum charge based on the cumulative percentage change to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) since July 2006.
- Requires the Registrar to publish the updated maximum charge on a website maintained by the Department of Public Safety.
- Retains a provision in current law that limits the amount of the charge to 10% of the sale or lease price.

Lender-provided certificate of title

- Repeals a requirement that a lender provide the purchaser of a motor vehicle with a physical certificate of title following full payment of the loan, at no extra cost to the purchaser.
- Waives unpaid fines for violations of that requirement.
- Requires a lender, instead, to send a written notice, including through electronic communication, to the owner of the motor vehicle referring them to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) website for information on titling options, either when the owner takes out the loan or discharges it.

- Requires the BMV to include titling options, including fees, on its website for owners to reference after their motor vehicle loan is discharged.

Public depositories

- Eliminates prohibition against financial institutions that are subject to a cease-and-desist order from serving as a public depository.
- Requires public depositories to notify the governing board if the depository becomes party to an active prompt corrective action directive.
- Specifies that institutions are ineligible to serve as public depositories while under a prompt corrective action directive unless authorized by a governing board.
- Relieves certain public officials from liability for loss of public moneys deposited in a failed public depository.

Other appropriations

- Appropriates \$2 million to the Department of Higher Education, to a fund utilized for educator preparation programs.