



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

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Sub. H.B. 103

131st General Assembly

(As Reported by H. Economic and Workforce Development)

Reps. Pelanda and Kunze, Grossman, Dever, Duffey, Bishoff, Ruhl, Brown, Blessing, Thompson, Leland, Antonio, Driehaus, Fedor, Barnes, Kraus

BILL SUMMARY

- Designates the second week of March as Ohio Women's Week for Policy and Entrepreneurship.
- Creates an Ohio women's policy and entrepreneurship committee.
- Requires a committee to plan and conduct a two-day forum and competition during Ohio Women's Week for Policy and Entrepreneurship.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Ohio Women's Week for Policy and Entrepreneurship

The bill designates the second week of March as Ohio Women's Week for Policy and Entrepreneurship. In even-numbered years, an Ohio women's policy and entrepreneurship committee created under the bill, in collaboration with the private sector, must conduct a two-day forum and competition during this week to encourage, inspire, and counsel women to develop tangible business plans.¹

Ohio women's policy and entrepreneurship committee

Committee duties

As mentioned above, an Ohio women's policy and entrepreneurship committee is required to plan and conduct a two-day forum and competition to take place every

¹ R.C. 5.2298.

even-numbered year during Ohio Women's Week for Policy and Entrepreneurship. A committee must perform the following duties for the forum and competition:

- Establish application procedures for the competition;
- Establish requirements applicants must satisfy to participate in the competition, including owning a business that is registered with the Secretary of State and that has been in operation for three or more years; employing three or more individuals, including the owner of the business; and possessing a valid professional or occupational license, certificate, registration, or permit if one is required to conduct business in Ohio;
- Manage the application process, review applications, and approve a reasonable number of applicants to participate in the competition;
- Judge the competition and select the individual with the best viable business plan as the winner;
- Submit a final report summarizing the committee's activities to the General Assembly by the end of the month after the competition has been completed.²

The first committee appointed must conduct the first forum and competition during Ohio Women's Policy and Entrepreneurship Week in March 2016. The winner of the first competition will become an entrepreneur in residence in the LeanOhio Office, in addition to any other entrepreneurs in residence appointed by LeanOhio.³

Committee appointment and administration

An Ohio women's policy and entrepreneurship committee created under the bill consists of the following members:

(1) Four individuals appointed by the President of the Senate, including one member of the majority party and one member of the minority party of the Senate;

(2) Four individuals appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, including one member of the majority party and one member of the minority party of the House of Representatives;

² R.C. 125.66.

³ R.C. 125.66, by reference to R.C. 125.65, not in the bill, and Section 2.



(3) Three individuals appointed by the Governor, including two women business leaders or entrepreneurs and one representative of LeanOhio.

Two of the committee members appointed by the President of the Senate and two of the committee members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives must be women business leaders or entrepreneurs.⁴

Initial appointments must be made within 60 days after the bill's effective date.⁵ Each committee functions for approximately one year, until it has completed its duties and submitted its final report to the General Assembly. Upon the submission of the reports, each committee ceases to exist. Subsequent appointments are made in March of each odd-numbered year.

The most recent winner of the competition held during Ohio Women's Week for Policy and Entrepreneurship, if willing and able, replaces the business leader or entrepreneur appointed by the Governor or becomes a member of a committee if the appointment has not yet been made. At its first meeting, a committee must elect a chairperson from its members.

Appointed members of the committee serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority, who must remove a member if the member is no longer qualified to serve on the committee. Otherwise, members serve on a committee until the committee has fulfilled its duties. Vacancies are filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

Members are not entitled to compensation for their service but are entitled to reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses related to their committee service. Members also may continue to receive compensation applying to the member's regular employment during the member's term on a committee. The Department of Administrative Services must provide each committee with meeting space and staffing support.⁶

Background – Entrepreneur in Residence Pilot Program

Continuing law requires the LeanOhio Office in the Department of Administrative Services to establish and operate an "entrepreneur in residence" pilot program. The program's stated mission is to "provide for better outreach by state government to small businesses, to strengthen coordination and interaction between

⁴ R.C. 125.67(B).

⁵ Section 2.

⁶ R.C. 125.67.



state government and small businesses, and to make state government programs and functions simpler, easier to access, more efficient, and more responsive to the needs of small businesses."⁷

Under the program, the LeanOhio Office may appoint up to five individuals who are successful in their fields to serve as entrepreneurs in residence. The Office is required to market the program across Ohio and make reasonable efforts to attract participation from entrepreneurs of various backgrounds (including female entrepreneurs, minority business enterprises, and owners of EDGE business enterprises). The term of an entrepreneur in residence lasts one year.⁸

Before the end of an individual's one-year tenure as an entrepreneur in residence, the individual is required to prepare a report about the individual's experiences in the program and submit the report to the LeanOhio Office. The report must include recommendations on state government practices that will improve the efficiencies of programs that affect small businesses, new programs that should be implemented to positively affect small businesses, and other suggestions that would further the mission of the entrepreneur in residence pilot program.⁹

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	03-04-15
Reported, H. Economic & Workforce Development	05-27-15

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⁷ R.C. 125.65(B), not in the bill.

⁸ R.C. 125.65(B) and (C), not in the bill.

⁹ R.C. 125.65(F)(1), not in the bill.

