



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

## Bill Analysis

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### H.B. 103

131st General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

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

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## BILL SUMMARY

- Designates the second week of March as Ohio Women's Week for Policy and Entrepreneurship.
- Creates a 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.

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## 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, a 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.<sup>1</sup>

### Women's policy and entrepreneurship committee

#### Committee duties

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

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<sup>1</sup> 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;
- 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 of the committee's activities to the General Assembly by the end of the month after the competition has been completed.<sup>2</sup>

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.<sup>3</sup>

### **Committee appointment and administration**

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

(1) Two members of the Senate who are not members of the same political party, appointed by the President of the Senate;

(2) Two members of the House of Representatives who are not members of the same political party, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

(3) Three individuals who are business leaders or entrepreneurs, one appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one appointed by the President of the Senate, and one appointed by the Governor;

(4) Three community leaders, one appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one appointed by the President of the Senate, and one appointed by the Governor;

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<sup>2</sup> R.C. 125.66.

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



(5) One representative of LeanOhio appointed by the Governor.<sup>4</sup>

Initial appointments must be made within 60 days after the bill's effective date.<sup>5</sup> 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.

Members serve on a committee until the committee has fulfilled its duties or until the member is no longer qualified. Vacancies are filled in the same manner as the original appointment. 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.

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 a member's term on a committee. The Department of Administrative Services must provide each committee with meeting space and staffing support.<sup>6</sup>

## **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 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."<sup>7</sup>

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 the state and make reasonable efforts to attract participation from entrepreneurs of various backgrounds (including female

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<sup>4</sup> R.C. 125.67.

<sup>5</sup> Section 2.

<sup>6</sup> R.C. 125.67.

<sup>7</sup> R.C. 125.65(B), not in the bill.



entrepreneurs, minority business enterprises, and owners of EDGE business enterprises). The term of an entrepreneur in residence would last one year.<sup>8</sup>

Before the end of an individual's one-year tenure as an entrepreneur in residence, the individual is required to prepare a report about their 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.<sup>9</sup>

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## HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	03-04-15

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<sup>8</sup> R.C. 125.65(B) and (C), not in the bill.

<sup>9</sup> R.C. 125.65(F)(1), not in the bill.

