



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Joseph Rogers

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: H.B. 339 of the 131st G.A.

Date: April 11, 2016

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor: Rep. Young

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Use of foreign law by the courts, agencies, and arbitrators

State Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- The bill may affect how judges apply the law in a very small number of civil cases, with any additional costs to the court covered by existing resources and absorbed into its daily cost of doing business.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill prohibits any court, administrative agency, or arbitrator from basing any ruling in a case on a system of foreign law that does not grant the parties affected one or more of certain liberties, rights, and privileges. A ruling or decision made by a court, administrative agency, or arbitrator in violation of the prohibition is void and unenforceable.

The bill will not create additional civil actions for the courts to adjudicate, but may affect how judges apply the law and decide a limited number of cases that arise under current law and practice. The extent of a court's application of a foreign law is always dictated by federal and state law. The court may have to expend additional effort in determining if the foreign law is consistent with the requirements of the bill. This may require more time to research, interpret, and decide certain cases. The numbers of cases in which such issues of foreign law may or may not apply are very small. The potential additional time constraints will have a minimal impact on the court's docket, and would not require the services of any new personnel. Any costs will simply be absorbed into the court's daily cost of doing business.