



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

Jeff Grim

S.B. 271

131st General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Sens. Gentile, Yuko, Jones, Schiavoni, Cafaro, Skindell, Tavares, Thomas, LaRose

BILL SUMMARY

- Allows a law enforcement officer, under certain conditions, to purchase a police dog or horse for fair market value when the officer retires in good standing from a law enforcement agency.
- Declares an emergency.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Purchasing a police dog or horse

Currently, a law enforcement officer who leaves a law enforcement agency's equine or canine unit while the police dog or horse assigned to the officer is still fit for duty forfeits the right to purchase the animal. The bill authorizes a law enforcement officer who retires from an equine or canine unit of a law enforcement agency in good standing to purchase for fair market value the police dog or horse to whom the law enforcement officer was assigned immediately prior to the officer's retirement, if the officer receives approval from both of the following:

(1) The law enforcement agency served by the police dog or horse;

(2) The legislative authority of the municipal corporation or political subdivision, as applicable, served by the police dog or horse or, in the case of a police dog or horse serving the State Highway Patrol, the Director of Public Safety.¹

¹ R.C. 9.62(D) and (E).

Continuing law permits a law enforcement officer to whom a police dog or horse is assigned to purchase the animal for \$1 when a canine or equine unit is disbanded, or if the police dog or horse is injured in the line of duty, becomes disabled and is unfit for duty, or grows too old to be fit for duty.²

Under the bill, the sale of the police dog or horse is not subject to the requirement that the sale by a municipal corporation of property with an estimated value of \$1,000 or more be authorized by an ordinance of the legislative authority of a municipal corporation and be approved by the board, officer, or director having supervision or management of the property, nor does the property have to be competitively bid.³

HISTORY

| ACTION | DATE |
|------------|----------|
| Introduced | 02-04-16 |

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² R.C. 9.62(B) and (C).

³ R.C. 721.15.

