



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Bill Analysis

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S.B. 97

132nd General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Sens. LaRose and Yuko, Beagle, Hite, Brown, Tavares

BILL SUMMARY

- Creates the Regional Economic Development Alliance Study Committee.
 - Specifies the composition of the 12-member Committee and its organizational procedures.
 - Requires the Committee to study the features, benefits, and challenges involved in establishing regional economic development alliances and the ways in which such alliances would address the needs of regions throughout Ohio.
 - Requires the Committee to consult with various resource groups, including local government officials and members of chambers of commerce.
 - Requires the Committee to submit a report of its findings to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Senate President not later than one year after the bill takes effect and to cease to exist after it submits the report.
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CONTENT AND OPERATION

The bill creates the Regional Economic Development Alliance Study Committee for the purpose of studying the benefits and challenges involved in creating regional economic development alliances.

Membership and organization

The Regional Economic Development Alliance Study Committee consists of the following 12 members:

- Three members of the House of Representatives, not more than two of whom are members of the same party, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- Three members of the Senate, not more than two of whom are members of the same party, appointed by the Senate President;
- The Governor or the Governor's designee;
- Two representatives from academia engaged in relevant fields of study, appointed by the co-chairpersons of the Committee;
- Two economic development professionals, appointed by the co-chairpersons of the Committee;
- The chairperson of the Regional Prosperity Initiative or the chairperson's designee, who serves as a nonvoting member.

Committee members must be appointed not later than 30 days after the bill takes effect. Any vacancies on the Committee must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

The bill requires the Speaker and the Senate President each to appoint one Committee member to serve as a co-chairperson. The Committee must hold its initial meeting as soon as practicable after all members have been appointed, and all subsequent meetings must be held at the call of the co-chairpersons.¹

Report

Under the bill, the Regional Economic Development Alliance Study Committee must study the features, benefits, and challenges involved in establishing regional economic development alliances that would do all of the following:

- Enhance collaboration for successful regional economic development efforts;
- Allow for the sharing of services;
- Permit the mobilization of necessary resources among alliance members.

The Committee also must examine the ways in which such alliances would address the needs of regions throughout Ohio. In completing its study, the Committee must consult

¹ Section 1(A) of the bill.

with various resource groups, including county commissioners, township trustees, mayors, city council members, members of statewide and regional organizations that represent political subdivisions, and members of chambers of commerce.

Not later than one year after the bill takes effect, the Commission must submit a report of its findings and conclusions to the Governor, the Speaker of the House, and the Senate President. Upon submitting the report, the Committee must cease to exist.²

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	03-09-17

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² Section 1(B) and (C) of the bill.

