



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Robert Meeker

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: H.B. 625 of the 132nd G.A.

Status: As Reported by House Economic Development, Commerce and Labor

Sponsor: Reps. Lang and Lipps

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Subject: Auxiliary containers

The bill has no direct fiscal effect on the state or political subdivisions. The bill: (1) prohibits a municipal corporation, township, or charter county from imposing a tax, fee, assessment, or other charge on the use, sale, or consumption of auxiliary containers (for example, a plastic or paper bag), (2) authorizes a person to use an auxiliary container, and (3) clarifies that existing anti-littering laws apply to auxiliary containers.

Currently, no political subdivisions in the state of Ohio levy a fee, tax, or other charge on the use, sale, or consumption of auxiliary containers, although there is pending legislation in the Cuyahoga County Council to levy a ten-cent fee (\$0.10) on carryout bags.¹ The bill will remove the option for Cuyahoga County specifically and political subdivisions generally from using taxes, fees, and levies on auxiliary containers as a source of revenue in the future.

The bill's provisions authorizing the use of auxiliary containers and clarifying the anti-littering laws codify current practice as auxiliary containers are used and considered litter in the absence of the bill.

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¹ Proposed Cuyahoga County Ordinance O2017-0006 defines a carryout bag as "a paper or plastic bag provided by a Retail Establishment to a customer at point of sale to carry purchased items." The county estimates that, based on current usage, the \$0.10 fee will generate \$31.9 million annually to combat the polluting effects and related blight caused by disposable bags on the county's environment.