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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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S.B. 375*
133rd General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Reported by Senate Agriculture & Natural Resources

Primary Sponsors: Sens. Hoagland and Schaffer

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SUMMARY

- Voids the Director of Health's order, "Director's Amended Order Limiting County Fairs to Junior Fair Activities and Animal Exhibitions, with Exceptions" issued on July 30, 2020.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

County fair order voided

The bill voids the Director of Health's order, "Director's Amended Order Limiting County Fairs to Junior Fair Activities and Animal Exhibitions, with Exceptions." That order was issued on July 30, 2020, citing the Director's statutory authority to make special orders to prevent the spread of contagious or infectious disease.¹

Order requirements

The voided order (available [here](#)) applies, by its terms, to all county fairs until the Director of Health modifies or rescinds it. Under the order, permitted county fairs are limited to junior fair activities, including junior livestock shows and exhibits that promote agricultural and household-manufacturing interests. Participation is limited to those in 4-H, FFA, or other youth organizations.

* This analysis was prepared before the report of the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee appeared in the Senate Journal. Note that the legislative history may be incomplete.

¹ Section 1; R.C. 3701.13, not in the bill; "Director's Amended Order Limiting County Fairs to Junior Fair Activities and Animal Exhibitions, with Exceptions" issued on July 30, 2020.

Outside of junior fair activities, the order permits only food vendors. In addition to the restrictions described here, the order suggests or mandates numerous measures to ensure social distancing, including a required 10:00 p.m. curfew for fairgrounds during junior fairs.²

The bill's effect

The bill effectively allows county and independent agricultural societies to hold fairs in accordance with Ohio law, and absent the restrictions imposed by the order. The bill does not, however, prevent subsequent orders on the same subject.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	11-03-20
Reported, S. Agriculture & Natural Resources	--

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² The Director of Health's order under R.C. 3701.13. "Director's Amended Order Limiting County Fairs to Junior Fair Activities and Animal Exhibitions, with Exceptions" issued on July 30, 2020.