



www.lsc.ohio.gov

# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

H.B. 405  
134<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

## Bill Analysis

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primary Sponsors:** Reps. Stewart and Johnson

Alyssa Bethel, Attorney

### SUMMARY

- Clarifies the nature of the appointing authority for boards of county hospital trustees.

### DETAILED ANALYSIS

#### Boards of county hospital trustees

The bill clarifies the nature of the appointing authority for boards of county hospital trustees. Under continuing law, a county may establish a county hospital. If the county establishes a county hospital, there must be a board of county hospital trustees to operate the hospital.

Current law requires the board of county commissioners “together with” the longest-serving<sup>1</sup> probate judge and the longest-serving judge of the court of common pleas (other than the probate judge) to appoint the board of county hospital trustees.<sup>2</sup> It is unclear whether this means: (1) the board of county commissioners must cast one vote as a body, thereby totaling three votes or (2) each of the three county commissioners must cast an individual vote, thereby totaling five votes. The bill clarifies it is the latter by specifying the appointing authority is comprised of five votes: one from each of the two judges and one from each of the three county commissioners.<sup>3</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> The language the Revised Code uses is “probate judge of the county senior in point of service” and “judge . . . of the common pleas court of the county senior in point of service.” This is understood to mean the longest-serving judge.

<sup>2</sup> Continuing law also authorizes the appointing authority to increase or decrease the number of members of a board of county hospital trustees; the bill’s clarification applies to this as well.

<sup>3</sup> R.C. 339.02.

---

## HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	08-30-21

---