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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

H.B. 592  
134<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

## Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 592's Bill Analysis](#)

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primary Sponsor:** Rep. Hicks-Hudson

**Local Impact Statement Procedure Required:** No

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### Highlights

- The bill appropriates \$250,000 in each of fiscal years 2022 and 2023 from the GRF for the Chancellor of Higher Education, in collaboration with the cooperative extension services of the Ohio State University and Central State University, to establish the Urban Farmer Youth Initiative Pilot Program.

### Detailed Analysis

The bill appropriates \$250,000 in each of fiscal years 2022 and 2023 from new GRF line item 235589, Urban Farmer Youth Initiative Pilot Program, for the Chancellor of Higher Education, Ohio State University (OSU) Cooperative Extension Services, and Central State University (CSU) Cooperative Extension Services, to jointly establish the Urban Farmer Youth Initiative Pilot Program to provide relevant programming and support for farming and agriculture to youth ages 6-18 living in urban areas. The bill requires the pilot program to operate for FY 2022 and FY 2023 and offer programming in at least two, but no more than four counties. The program's funding may be used to partner with local entities to deliver programming and to support existing agricultural organizations to help expand programming to urban youth. Up to 15% of the FY 2022 appropriation may be used by the collaboration to develop and establish the pilot program. As a practical matter, however, FY 2022 is nearly over.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, extension services provide relevant information through nonformal education and learning activities to farmers, small business owners, consumers, and families in both rural and urban areas. OSU and CSU partner in the offering of agricultural extension services pursuant to federal law that requires a single, comprehensive extension program for a state. Both universities serve as co-executives in counties in which they both have programs and coordinate to create a unified extension program. Although cooperative, and often co-located, both universities work individually and

collaboratively to provide services to diverse populations across Ohio. The combined GRF appropriations in H.B 110 for extension services amounts to \$29.6 million in FY 2022 and \$29.8 million in FY 2023, about 83% of which flows to the OSU Extension.