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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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Office

H.B. 178
134th General Assembly

Final Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 178's Bill Analysis](#)

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Schmidt and A. Miller

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- It is possible that municipalities that operate swimming pools could incur costs to replace water features if the bill's water pressure limits cannot be met without doing so. It is unknown at this time how many municipalities or features may be impacted.

Detailed Analysis

Pressure of swimming pool and spa water features

The bill limits the pressure of water features included in public swimming pools, public spas, and special use pools and requires that the flow rate through a nozzle of a water feature to be at a rate that does not harm patrons. The bill also prohibits the rate from exceeding 20 feet per second unless justified by the design engineer and fountain system manufacturer. The bill requires the owner of a public swimming pool, public spa, or special use pool to comply with the bill's provisions. Additionally, the bill prohibits the Director of Health from approving plans for the construction, installation, or renovation of a public swimming pool, public spa, or special use pool if the plans do not satisfy the flow rate requirements established by the bill.

Fiscal impact

The bill would require local political subdivisions that operate public swimming pools to ensure that the bill's water pressure limits are met. It is possible that municipalities could incur costs to replace water features if the water pressure cannot be reduced without doing so. According to the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department, the bill may be more likely to impact older facilities or features, as newer facilities or water features are more likely to have a lower velocity or volume of water. It is unknown at this time how many features or municipalities may be impacted.