



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: H.B. 246 of the 132nd G.A.

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor: Reps. Bocchieri and Rezabek

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Subject: Classroom facilities funding for county boards of developmental disabilities

State & Local Fiscal Highlights

- The bill requires the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) to provide funding from money appropriated for classroom facilities assistance projects to certain county boards of developmental disabilities (county DD boards) to assist in the acquisition and renovation of classroom facilities used by the boards.
- The bill will thus divert funding from school districts to county DD boards, likely delaying the offering of state funding to certain districts and lengthening the time it will take for the state to reach its goal of offering facilities funding to all school districts in the state. Assuming the state continues to fund this goal, the overall cost to the state will increase.
- The amount of this increase and the amount of state funding received by county DD boards will depend on the guidelines established by OFCC and the proposals submitted by the county DD boards. Under the bill, the boards must match the amount of state funding requested with funding from other sources.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill requires the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) to provide funding to certain county boards of developmental disabilities (county DD boards) to assist in the acquisition and renovation of classroom facilities.¹ Under the bill, OFCC is to use funds appropriated for classroom facilities assistance projects to provide the funding. In the most recent capital budget for the FY 2017-FY 2018 biennium, OFCC received a total of \$650 million in appropriations for classroom facilities assistance. Most of this funding is provided to school districts through the Classroom Facilities Assistance Program (CFAP). CFAP funding is based on each district's relative wealth. Lower wealth districts are funded before higher wealth districts and receive a larger percentage of their total project funding from the state. As of the end of FY 2017,

¹ The bill refers to the School Facilities Commission as it was introduced prior to the enactment of H.B. 49 of the 132nd General Assembly, which abolished the School Facilities Commission and transferred its responsibilities to OFCC.

137 districts (21%) had not yet been offered funding and another 131 (20%) had been offered funding but had not yet accepted it.² The effect of the bill will likely be to divert some state funding from school districts to county DD boards. Assuming the state continues to fund CFAP, this may result in delaying the offering of funding to some school districts and lengthening the time it takes for the state to offer funding to all remaining districts.

The bill requires OFCC to establish guidelines for the provision of facilities funding to county DD boards. Based on these guidelines, county DD boards will submit proposals indicating the total amount of funding requested and the amount of other funding pledged for the facilities, which must be at least equal to the amount requested from the state. The total amount of appropriations diverted to county DD boards will, therefore, depend on OFCC's guidelines and the proposals submitted by the county DD boards.

In addition to establishing guidelines, OFCC must review proposals from county DD boards and determine if they meet the guidelines. These additional duties will increase OFCC's administrative costs.

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² Districts must raise the local share of their project costs before accepting OFCC's funding offer.