



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Shannon Pleiman

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: H.B. 175 of the 132nd G.A.

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor: Rep. Brinkman

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Subject: Allows residential property owners to keep small livestock on property

State Fiscal Highlights

- The Division of Animal Health within the Department of Agriculture will incur additional costs to oversee the bill's provisions. The additional cost would ultimately depend on the number of residential property owners keeping small livestock on their property. The Division of Animal Health is primarily funded by GRF appropriation item 700401, Animal Health Programs.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill allows a person who owns residential property not generally used for agricultural purposes to keep, harbor, breed, or maintain small livestock such as goats, chickens and similar fowl, and rabbits and similar small animals. The number and type of small livestock that a residential property owner would be able to have on the property is limited to a 1:1 ratio of one livestock unit per one acre of residential property. Each type of small livestock has a unit value, expressed as a decimal number, specified under the bill. The bill prohibits a residential property owner from having small livestock on their property if the animals (1) create a nuisance, (2) are kept in a way that causes noxious odor or unsanitary conditions that result in a public health concern, or (3) are housed in structures that are not solidly constructed, are not of adequate size necessary to house the small livestock in a comfortable and sanitary manner, or that are closer than ten feet from neighboring property lines.

The Department of Agriculture would be required to regulate these requirements statewide. According to the Department, this responsibility would most likely fall under the Division of Animal Health, which will incur new expenses to ensure residential owners who elect to keep small livestock on their properties follow the regulations in the bill. Presumably, the types of issues the Division of Animal Health would deal with include questions from residential owners who want to have small livestock, as well as complaints from neighboring residential owners, among other matters. Currently, the Division of Animal Health employs eight animal health inspectors. The increased costs under the bill will ultimately depend on how many people would keep small livestock on their property. The Division of Animal Health is

primarily funded by GRF appropriation item 700401, Animal Health Programs. In FY 2017, \$3.8 million was spent under this line item.

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