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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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Office

H.B. 169
134th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 169's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Reported by House Economic and Workforce Development

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Cutrona and Swearingen

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- The bill appropriates \$100.0 million in FY 2021 under the Coronavirus Relief Fund (Fund 5CV1) line item 195561, Bar and Restaurant Assistance, for the Development Services Agency (DSA) to provide grants to bars and restaurants that have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The bill appropriates \$25.0 million in FY 2021 under Fund 5CV1 line item 195562, Lodging Industry Grants, for DSA to provide grants for lodging industry businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Detailed Analysis

In total, the bill appropriates \$125.0 million in FY 2021 to the Development Services Agency (DSA) to provide grants to bars, restaurants, and lodging industry businesses that have been adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. These appropriations are supported by funds received by the state under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. These funds are deposited into the Coronavirus Relief Fund (Fund 5CV1).

Of the \$125.0 million in funding provided by the bill, \$100.0 million is appropriated under Fund 5CV1 line item 195561, Bar and Restaurant Assistance, for DSA to provide grants to bars and restaurants. The remaining \$25.0 million is appropriated under Fund 5CV1 line item 195562, Lodging Industry Grants, for DSA to provide grants for lodging industry businesses. Under each of these grant programs, awards are to be distributed in amounts of \$10,000, \$20,000, and \$30,000. Grants for bars and restaurants are to be awarded based on factors such as demonstrated loss of revenue and the number of employees that eligible bars and restaurants employ. Grants for lodging industry businesses are to be awarded based on factors such as demonstrated loss of revenue and occupancy rates.

The \$100 million provided for bars and restaurants under the bill follows a previous \$38.7 million in CARES Act funding approved by the Controlling Board in October 2020, for the Bar and Restaurant Assistance Program, also overseen by the Development Services Agency. That program provided \$2,500 grants to businesses with liquor permits allowing for consumption on premises, including bars, restaurants, breweries, distilleries, and wineries. The deadline to apply for grants was January 31, 2021. Under the program, a little over 11,500 liquor permit holders applied for approximately \$29.0 million in grants.