

**As Introduced**

**132nd General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2017-2018**

**H. B. No. 600**

**Representative Barnes**

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**A BILL**

To enact section 122.863 of the Revised Code to 1  
establish the "Access to Global Market 2  
Opportunities for Ohio Manufactured Products 3  
Program" to be composed of the "Ohio Global 4  
Leadership Initiative" and the "Global 5  
Initiative on International Relations" to create 6  
new, untapped global markets for Ohio businesses 7  
and thereby promote job creation, and to make an 8  
appropriation. 9

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 122.863 of the Revised Code be 10  
enacted to read as follows: 11

**Sec. 122.863.** (A) As used in this section: 12

(1) "Ohio commodore" means an individual appointed by the 13  
governor to the executive order of the Ohio commodores, a 14  
distinction founded in 1966 to honor outstanding contributions 15  
to the economic development of the state. 16

(2) "District export council" means an organization of 17  
business leaders in this state appointed by United States 18  
secretaries of commerce to promote economic health and create 19

new higher-paying jobs by assisting small- and medium-sized 20  
businesses to establish or increase export sales. 21

(3) "Education" includes both public and private 22  
institutions of higher education. 23

(4) "Travel expenses" means actual and necessary traveling 24  
and other expenses incurred while attending any gathering, 25  
conference, retreat, or convention, or while performing official 26  
duties, inside or outside this state. 27

(B) There is hereby established the access to global 28  
market opportunities for Ohio manufactured products program for 29  
the purpose of encouraging executive and legislative efforts to 30  
promote internationally the state of Ohio and its economy, 31  
diplomacy, and humanity and to align Ohio government, market, 32  
and industry forces to increase Ohio businesses' access to 33  
global market opportunities, thereby enhancing their competitive 34  
advantage in world markets and promoting job creation in Ohio. 35

(C) (1) There is hereby created the global initiative on 36  
international relations. The global initiative shall, through 37  
diplomatic efforts, advance and promote Ohio's education, 38  
economy, diplomacy, humanity, and legislative initiatives and 39  
build and manage reciprocal relationships with foreign 40  
governments as is consistent with the new integrated principle 41  
of the global economy. 42

(2) The global initiative on international relations shall 43  
consist of not less than twenty individuals, each of whom shall 44  
hold the title "Ohio ambassador." The total number of Ohio 45  
ambassadors that may be appointed shall be determined on the 46  
basis of need, as influenced by the size and number of global 47  
economic regions identified by the director of development 48

services. 49

(3) One-half of the Ohio ambassadors shall be appointed by 50  
the speaker of the house of representatives and one-half shall 51  
be appointed by the president of the senate. Two of the Ohio 52  
ambassadors appointed by the speaker shall be members of the 53  
house of representatives. Two of the Ohio ambassadors appointed 54  
by the president of the senate shall be members of the senate. 55  
All of the remaining Ohio ambassadors shall be Ohio commodores. 56  
Appointment as an Ohio ambassador is not the holding of a public 57  
office for the purposes of Section 4 of Article II, Ohio 58  
Constitution. Ohio ambassadors serve at the pleasure of their 59  
appointing authority. 60

(4) Ohio ambassadors shall not be paid for their service, 61  
but may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in 62  
carrying out their duties under this section. An Ohio ambassador 63  
who is a member of the house of representatives shall not be 64  
reimbursed under this division for travel expenses unless the 65  
member obtains written approval from the governor and the 66  
speaker of the house of representatives before traveling. An 67  
Ohio ambassador who is a member of the senate shall not be 68  
reimbursed under this division for travel expenses unless the 69  
member obtains written approval from the governor and the 70  
president of the senate before traveling. 71

For the purposes of reimbursing Ohio ambassadors under 72  
this division, the initiative may seek federal grants available 73  
for promoting reciprocal commerce. Such grants shall be 74  
deposited to the credit of the Ohio ambassador fund, which is 75  
hereby created in the state treasury, to be used for the 76  
purposes of division (C) of this section. The fund may also 77  
consist of private donations or deposits to the fund by federal, 78

state, or local government. 79

(D) (1) Within the development services agency, there is 80  
hereby created the Ohio global leadership initiative. The 81  
initiative shall build models of opportunity to facilitate Ohio 82  
businesses' entry or expansion into foreign markets, thereby 83  
enhancing Ohio businesses' competitive advantage in world 84  
markets and promoting job creation in Ohio. 85

(2) The director of development services shall designate 86  
select members of Ohio district export councils to serve as 87  
"Ohio business consulates." Ohio business consulates shall 88  
assist Ohio businesses in establishing relationships with 89  
foreign businesses, market or industry trade groups, or 90  
regulatory authorities; brokering business transactions in 91  
foreign markets; promoting the business in foreign markets; or 92  
securing advice and information regarding foreign languages and 93  
local business and social customs. 94

(3) Ohio business consulates shall report to the director 95  
of development services on all activities related to the 96  
position and the value of any transaction facilitated by the 97  
consulate. Consulate reports shall be filed at intervals and in 98  
a manner to be determined by the director. The director, within 99  
a reasonable period of time after the effective date of the 100  
enactment of this section, shall develop and make available to 101  
consulates an electronic method for filing the reports required 102  
by this division. 103

(4) The designation of an individual as an Ohio business 104  
consulate does not, in and of itself, cause the individual to be 105  
an employee or agent of any state agency. No individual shall 106  
receive compensation from any state agency for services 107  
performed as a consulate. 108

(5) An agreement shall be required for Ohio business 109  
consulates to legally bind Ohio businesses with respect to 110  
certain issues to be determined by the director of development 111  
services and the attorney general, including the license or sale 112  
of intellectual property, trademarks, and copyrights. 113

(6) The director of development services shall adopt rules 114  
under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to administer this 115  
section. 116

(E) The access to global market opportunities for Ohio 117  
manufactured products program, through the individual efforts of 118  
the global initiative on international relations and the Ohio 119  
leadership global initiative, shall strive to achieve the 120  
following goals: 121

(1) Facilitating logistics for Ohio businesses seeking to 122  
use foreign ports and for foreign businesses seeking to use Ohio 123  
ports; 124

(2) Enhancing industry development for Ohio's chief 125  
twenty-five industries, as determined by the director of 126  
development services; 127

(3) Promoting reciprocal trade activities, such as trade 128  
shows; 129

(4) Holding an annual industry-sponsored reception in the 130  
District of Columbia, hosting government and business 131  
representatives from key foreign nations; 132

(5) Enhancing and promoting Ohio's industry of partial 133  
manufacturing; 134

(6) Attraction of foreign investment to Ohio; 135

(7) Educational exchange. 136

(F) The director of development services shall publish an 137  
Ohio international trade booklet, which shall list businesses in 138  
Ohio that could be suppliers to international markets, arranged 139  
according to each industry's North American industry 140  
classification system. The booklet shall be published and 141  
updated as often as the director finds desirable. The costs of 142  
publishing the booklet may be paid by fees charged to businesses 143  
requesting to be listed in the booklet and from any other fund 144  
available for the purpose. If fees paid by such businesses 145  
exceed the costs of publication, the director may direct that 146  
the excess shall be deposited in the Ohio ambassador fund 147  
created by division (C) of this section. 148

(G) Nothing in this section exempts Ohio ambassadors or 149  
Ohio business consulates from any federal, state, or local law. 150

**Section 2.** All items in this section are hereby 151  
appropriated as designated out of any moneys in the state 152  
treasury to the credit of the designated fund. For all 153  
appropriations made in this act, those in the first column are 154  
for fiscal year 2018 and those in the second column are for 155  
fiscal year 2019. The appropriations made in this act are in 156  
addition to any other appropriations made for the FY 2018-FY 157  
2019 biennium. 158

DEV DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGENCY 159

Dedicated Purpose Fund Group 160

5XXX 195XXX Access to Global Markets \$100,000\$0 161

Total DPF Dedicated Purpose Fund Group \$100,000\$0 162

TOTAL ALL BUDGET FUND GROUPS \$100,000 \$0 163

ACCESS TO GLOBAL MARKETS 164

On July 1, 2017, or as soon as possible thereafter, the 165  
Director of Budget and Management shall transfer \$100,000 cash 166  
from the General Revenue Fund to the Ohio Ambassador Fund, 167  
established in section 122.863 of the Revised Code. 168

The foregoing appropriation item 195XXX, Access to Global 169  
Markets, shall be used for the Access to Global Market 170  
Opportunities for Ohio Manufactured Products Program as 171  
described in section 122.863 of the Revised Code, and 172  
specifically for the purposes identified under division (E) of 173  
section 122.863 of the Revised Code. 174

**Section 3.** Within the limits set forth in this act, the 175  
Director of Budget and Management shall establish accounts 176  
indicating the source and amount of funds for each appropriation 177  
made in this act and shall determine the form and manner in 178  
which appropriation accounts shall be maintained. Expenditures 179  
from appropriations contained in this act shall be accounted for 180  
as though made in the main operating appropriations act of the 181  
132nd General Assembly. 182

The appropriations made in this act are subject to all 183  
provisions of the main operating appropriations act of the 132nd 184  
General Assembly that are generally applicable to such 185  
appropriations. 186