Department of Commerce	Main Operating Appropriations Bill H.B. 96
Executive	As Passed By House
COMCD26 Unclaimed funds filings	
R.C. 169.061, 169.08	
Authorizes COM to waive the submission of the standard claim form for unclaimed funds if: (1) the person claiming a property interest is identified as the owner of the funds or property on the report filed under R.C. 169.03; and (2) the Department reasonably believes the person claiming a property interest is entitled to receive the payment.	No provision.
Authorizes COM to exchange information with other state agencies or political subdivisions to locate and return unclaimed funds to their rightful owner.	No provision.
Fiscal effect: May result in some number of additional claims paid from the Unclaimed Funds Trust Fund. COMCD31 Unclaimed funds - claims from the estate of a deceased owner	
R.C. 169.081	
Requires the COM Director, with respect to claims filed under the Unclaimed Funds Law by a deceased owner's estate, to pay the claim only if it appears the payment will be received by: (1) the actual heirs or legatees of the deceased owner; (2) creditors of the deceased owner whose claims are valid, not barred and existed prior to death, up to the amount of the debt; and (3) creditors of the deceased owner whose claims are valid and not barred, up to the extent of the costs of administering the estate. Applies these requirements only to claims pending and arising on or after the effective date of this provision.	No provision.

Department of Commerce	Main Operating Appropriations Bill H.B. 96
Executive	As Passed By House
COMCD27 Unclaimed funds reporting penalties	
R.C. 169.12	
Imposes 3% annual interest on unclaimed funds that are not timely reported, paid, or delivered to COM. Establishes a cap of \$10,000 on continuing law's additional civil penalty of \$100 per day for a holder who fails to report, pay, or deliver unclaimed funds within four months after the date required by law. Allows COM to waive interest in addition to waiving civil penalties.	No provision.
Eliminates the current law requirement that the value of unclaimed fund that are intangible property be determined based on the market value as of the date for reporting and payment or, if no market value is determinable, on the basis used by the Department of Taxation.	· ·
Fiscal effect: Will change the amount collected by COM in fines and penalties for some civil penalties, depending on the circumstances and findings of the COM Director.	
COMCD28 Unclaimed funds civil penalties	
R.C. 169.99	
Allows the not more than \$500 a day fine for unclaimed funds violations to be imposed for each offense. Makes these penalties in lieu of, not in addition to, the penalties imposed under R.C. 169.12 (see COMCD27). Allows the COM Director to waive such penalties if the person or holder acted in good faith and without negligence.	No provision.
Allows the Director to impose a civil penalty of \$500 for each day from the date a fraudulent unclaimed funds report was filed until the date the report is corrected, up to a maximum of \$25,000, and an additional penalty of 25% of the amount fraudulently unreported or underreported Specifies that these penalties are in addition to, the penalties imposed under R.C. 169.12 (see COMCD27).	
Fiscal effect: Potential revenue gains from expanding these civil penalties.	

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Executive	As Passed By House
COMCD34 Regulation of earned wage access services	
	R.C. 1320.02, 1320.01 to 1320.10; 1320.21
No provision.	Requires businesses that provide earned wage access (EWA) services to register with the Division of Financial Institutions.
No provision.	Establishes a process through which a business may apply for a certificate of registration including a \$300 nonrefundable annual registration fee.
No provision.	Requires investigations and background checks for applicants and key officers the cost of which must be paid by the applicant.
No provision.	Regulates the operation of businesses providing EWA services including by establishing consumer rights and protections.
No provision.	Prohibits any local fees and assessments related to EWA services.
	Fiscal effect: Additional costs incurred by the Division of Financial Institutions would be offset to some extent through the nonrefundable fees of \$300 for an application of certification and \$200 for the required civil and criminal records investigations.
COMCD12 Financial Literacy Education Fund	
R.C. 1321.21, 121.085	R.C. 1321.21, 121.085
Removes the requirement that the OBM Director transfer 5% of the charges, penalties, and forfeitures paid to the Superintendent of Financial Institutions by check-cashing lenders, small loan licensees, mortgage brokers, loan officers, and certain other entities regulated by the Superintendent from the Consumer Finance Fund (Fund 5530) to the Financial Literacy Education Fund (Fund 5FW0).	Same as the Executive.
Removes the requirement that the COM Director adopt a rule requiring at least 50% of the Financial Literacy Education programs be offered at	Same as the Executive.

public community colleges or state institutions.

Depa	artment of Commerce		Main Operating Appropriations Bill H.B. 96
Execut	ive		As Passed By House
to the literacy	ves a requirement that the COM Director provide an annual report Governor and the House and Senate outlining each financial y education program developed or implemented, the number of uals educated by the program and accounting for all funds uted.		Same as the Executive.
	effect: Potentially reduces the amount of cash transfers to Fund and costs for administering the Financial Literacy Education m.		Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.
СОМС	010 Security Investor Education and Enforcement Fund grants		
R.C.	1707.37		R.C. 1707.37
Enforce and all	for money in the Division of Securities Investor Education and ement Expense Fund (Fund 5GK0) to be used for education grants ows the Division to adopt rules concerning qualifications for grant- programs.	I	Same as the Executive.
Fiscal e	effect: Potential increase in grant expenditures from Fund 5GK0.		Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.
сомс	011 Ohio Investor Recovery Fund transfers		
R.C.	1707.47		R.C. 1707.47
	res the annual \$2.5 million cap on cash transfers from the Division urities Fund (Fund 5500) to the Ohio Investor Recovery Fund (Fund	I	Same as the Executive.
	effect: Increases the potential cash transfers that can be made to XKO from Fund 5500.		Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.
сомс	025 Burial permit fee increase		
R.C.	3705.17		R.C. 3705.17, 4767.10
Increas	ses the burial permit fee from \$3.00 to \$4.50		Same as the Executive, but Increases the burial permit fee to \$10.

Department of Commerce		Main Operating Appropriations Bill H.B. 96
Executive		As Passed By House
No provision.		Increases from \$1 to \$6 the portion of each burial permit fee to be allocated to the Cemetery Grant Program.
No provision.	I	Increases the maximum grant amount available under the Cemetery Grant Program from \$2,500 to \$5,000.
Fiscal effect: Gain in burial permit fee revenue gain to the Cemetery Registration Fund (Fund 4H90).		Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive, but also increases the amount of grant funding available under the Cemetery Grant Program. COM issued \$104,000 in such grants in FY 2024.
COMCD33 Fire code changes and enforcement		
		R.C. 3737.83, 3781.062
No provision.		Prohibits the State Fire Marshal (SFM) from including certain accessory spaces in determining whether an agricultural structure requires an automatic sprinkler system or other fire suppression system.
No provision.		Requires the COM Director, in collaboration with the SFM, Board of Building Standards (BBS), and local building departments, to develop guidelines for the enforcement of the Ohio Building Code and State Fire Code in a coordinated manner, including the interaction of exemptions from one code with requirements of another code.
		Fiscal effect: Minimal.
COMCD38 Online sale and curb side pickup of consumer fireworks		
		R.C. 3743.48
No provision.		Permits licensed fireworks manufacturers and wholesalers to conduct online sales of 1.4G fireworks ("consumer fireworks"), subject to certain procedural requirements prescribed by the bill.
No provision.	I	Requires online sales to be linked to a specific manufacturer or wholesaler that will deliver the consumer fireworks in the manufacturer's or wholesaler's retail showroom or via curbside delivery in a designated pick-up zone on the same licensed premises.

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Executive	As Passed By House
No provision.	Allows a manufacturer or wholesaler to construct a tent or other temporary structure to provide shelter for employees and purchasers at the point of curbside delivery, provided those structures are approved by the SFM and compliant with the State Building Code, the State Fire Code, and local zoning requirements.
No provision.	Requires manufacturers and wholesalers that conduct online sales of consumer fireworks to implement reasonable traffic control measures for curbside deliveries.
No provision.	Prohibits a manufacturer or wholesaler from delivering consumer fireworks by mail order or other process outside the licensed premises, displaying fireworks for sale outside the retail showroom, or permitting members of the public to access areas of the licensed premises other than the retail showroom and the designated pickup zone for curbside delivery.
No provision.	Allows a manufacturer or wholesaler to submit alternative delivery systems for consumer grade fireworks to the SFM for approval.
No provision.	Permits the SFM to adopt rules as necessary to implement and enforce the provisions expanding sale and delivery conditions for consumer fireworks.
	Fiscal effect: Increase in oversight costs for the SFM to regulate these sales. Minimal, if any, gain in sales tax and receipts for the Fireworks Fee Receipts Fund (Fund 5BG1), which is used to regulate the fireworks industry.

Department of Commerce		Main Operating Appropriations Bill H.B. 96		
Executive		As Passed By House		
COMCD41 Drug misuse prevention, education, and public awareness initiatives				
		R.C. 3780.37, 243.30		
No provision.	1	Requires the Division of Cannabis Control to contract with a statewide nonprofit corporation to develop and implement cannabis and related drug misuse prevention, education, and public awareness initiatives. Requires at least 10% of the funding for the initiatives to be provided by the nonprofit corporation through private contributions. Requires the Division to oversee and evaluate the effectiveness of the initiatives undertaken by the nonprofit corporation.		
No provision.	I	Requires that Fund 5TZ0 ALI 800661, Drug Addiction Partnership, be used to fund the public-private partnership mentioned above. Requires the Division to submit an annual report to the General Assembly detailing program activities, use of funds, and measurable outcomes.		
		Fiscal effect: The bill provides funding of \$10.0 million each fiscal year for this purpose.		
COMCD13 Board of Building Standards Grant Program				
R.C. 3781.10, 3781.102		R.C. 3781.10, 3781.102		
Permits the Board of Building Standards to establish a grant program to assist local building departments in the recruitment, training, and retention of qualified personnel. Allows the Board to use fees credited to the Industrial Compliance Operating Fund (Fund 5560) in connection with inspections and approval of plans and specifications by local building departments to administer and award the grants.		Same as the Executive.		
Fiscal effect: Potential cost increases if COM uses this authority to establish the grant program including grant awards and administrative costs.		Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.		

Depar	rtment of Commerce			Main Operating Appropriations Bill H.B. 96
Executiv	/e		As Passed B	y House
COMCD1	4 Third-party building examiners and inspectors			
R.C.	3781.10		R.C. 3	781.10
municipa examina	he Board of Building Standards (BBS) to adopt rules that allow al, township, and county building departments to accept plan, ation, and inspection reports from third-party building plan ers and building inspectors.		Same as the	Executive.
	the Board to establish competency standards for third-party plan examiners and building inspectors.	I	Same as the	Executive.
addition	s that fees charged by a third-party examiner or inspector are in to current fees collected by political subdivisions on behalf of the or exams and inspections.	I	Same as the	Executive.
remain t under co	that plan approvals and certificates of occupancy or completion the exclusive authority of the certified personnel employed by or ontract with a certified municipal, township, and county building nent and cannot be issued by a third-party examiner or inspector.	I	Same as the	Executive.
	fect: Potential minimal cost increases to BBS for establishing d competency requirements.		Fiscal effect	: Same as the Executive.
COMCD1	5 Board of Building Standards rules for new construction and alteration	าร		
R.C.	3781.10, 3781.102		R.C. 3	781.10, 3781.102
enforcer	es the residential building code into two categories of ment: (1) the erection of and construction of new residential s; and (2) the repair and alteration of existing residential s.		Same as the	Executive.
Ohio Res to enfor	zes local building departments that are certified to enforce the sidential Building Code for new residential buildings to also elect ce the residential building code for the repair and alteration of residential buildings.		Same as the	Executive.

Department of Commerce	Main Operating Appropriations Bill H.B. 96
Executive	As Passed By House
Requires the local building department and personnel that enforce the Residential Building Code for the repair or alteration of existing residential buildings to obtain a certification from the Board of Building Standards.	Same as the Executive.
Maintains that the 1% fee paid by certain political subdivisions to the Board of Building Standards in connection with residential buildings the local building department is certified to enforce applies to both new and existing enforcement.	Same as the Executive.
Fiscal effect: Potential minimal costs to the Board of Building Standards to issue certificates, largely offset through any potential revenue gains through any additional certification fees and potential minimal additional costs to local building department personnel to obtain additionally needed certificates.	Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.
COMCD32 Kids Internet and Data Safety Commission	
R.C. 3793.01, 3793.02 - 3793.06, 3793.20 - 3793.25, 3793.30, 3793.40 - 3793.47, 3793.90, Section 820.40	
Creates the Kids Internet and Data Safety Commission within COM consisting of 11 members to enforce the below provisions, and further authorizes the Commission to: (1) identify emergent or current risks of harm to children and teens associated with online platforms; (2) recommend measures and methods for assessing, preventing, and mitigating such harms; (3) recommend methods and themes for conducting research regarding these harms; and (4) recommend best practices and clear consensus-based technical standards for required transparency reports and audits.	No provision.
Requires "covered platforms" likely to be accessed by a child or teen to	No provision.
take certain measures to prevent foreseeable harms to children and teens, including by establishing parental controls and privacy settings.	

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Department of Commerce	Main Operating Appropriations Bill H.B. 96
Executive	As Passed By House
Requires "online platforms" to provide notices about algorithms used to display content on the platform and to allow users to opt into an input-transparent algorithm.	No provision.
Prohibits certain practices by operators of web sites, online services, online applications, and mobile applications related to collection, use, disclosure, and deletion of personal information of children and teens.	No provision.
Requires such operators to obtain "verifiable consent" from the teen or parent of the child before collecting such personal information, subject to certain exclusions.	No provision.
Requires the Commission to administer and enforce these requirements, including imposing administrative penalties. Delays the effective date of these provisions until July 1, 2026.	No provision.
Creates the Kids Internet and Data Safety Fund in the state treasury, consisting of all money collected through administrative penalties imposed by the Commission.	No provision.
Allows the MHA Director to use unencumbered funds beyond the amount needed by the Commission to administer the bill's provisions, to support addiction treatment for minors.	No provision.
Fiscal effect: Indeterminate cost increases to operate the Commission and implement the specified requirements. Creates the Kids Internet and Data Safety Fund to pay the Commission's expenses, but does not appropriate funding.	
COMCD16 Minimum wage records	
R.C. 4111.99, 121.084	
Requires an employer who fails to retain records related to wages and hours to pay a fine of not more than \$100 each day of the violation and limits these total fines to \$5,000. Requires these fines to be deposited into the Industrial Compliance Operating Fund (Fund 5560).	No provision.
Fiscal effect: Potential fine revenue gain to Fund 5560.	

Department of Commerce	Main Operating Appropriations Bill H.B. 96
Executive	As Passed By House
COMCD39 Low alcohol coolers	
	R.C. 4301.01, 4301.43, 4301.432, 4303.05
No provision.	Expands the products that a mixed beverage manufacturer (A-4 permit) may manufacture and sell to alcohol retailers and distributors to include low-alcohol coolers.
No provision.	Defines low-alcohol coolers as bottled and prepared cordials, cocktails, and highballs to which all of the following apply: (1) they are obtained by mixing any type of spirituous liquor with, or over, nonalcoholic beverages, flavoring, or coloring; (2) as a completed product, they contain between 0.5% of alcohol by volume (ABV) and 10% of ABV; and (3) they are sold only in packages of four to twelve single-serve containers with each container 16 ozs. in size.
No provision.	Taxes low-alcohol coolers at \$0.35 per gallon, a reduction from the \$1.20 per gallon excise rate currently charged for mixed beverages, generally.
	Fiscal effect: Reduces receipts from the alcoholic beverage tax by an estimated \$3.1 million in FY 2026 and \$3.6 million in FY 2027, based on current trends in consumption.
COMCD20 H liquor permit fees	
R.C. 4301.12, 4301.30	R.C. 4301.12, 4301.30
Requires all H liquor permit fees (required for transporting alcoholic beverages) where the permit premises are located outside Ohio be credited to the State Liquor Regulatory Fund (Fund 5LPO) rather than the Undivided Liquor Permit Fund (Fund 7066).	Same as the Executive.
Fiscal effect: H liquor permit fees are \$300. For each such H permit, there will be a slight gain for Fund 5LP0 and a corresponding loss for Fund 7066.	Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.

**D'11** 

Department of Commerce			Main Operating Appropriations E H.B.		
Executive			As Passed By House		
COMCD1	9 Division of Liquor Control spirituous liquor sales				
R.C.	4301.19		R.C. 4301.19		
liquor fro under cu	that the Division of Liquor Control has authority to sell spirituous om A-3a liquor permit premises (micro-distilleries) because, irrent law, those permit holders sell spirituous liquor that the older manufactures under contract with the Division.		Same as the Executive.		
Fiscal eff	fect: None.		Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.		
COMCD3	5 Shared space for wineries				
			R.C. 4301.20		
No provision.			Allows two or more A-2 and A-2f permit holders (wineries and farm wineries) to use the same premises and manufacturing equipment to conduct all authorized activities for wineries.		
			Fiscal effect: None.		
COMCD2	1 D-7 liquor permit fees				
R.C.	4303.183		R.C. 4303.183		
-	s that the D-7 liquor permit, which is issued for six months, is ather than \$469 per month.		Same as the Executive.		
	fect: Since there is no change in the overall fee, there is no net n Fund 7066.		Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.		
COMCD2	2 F-4 liquor permit fee				
R.C.	4303.204		R.C. 4303.204		
-	he F-4 liquor permit (wine festival) fee, which is issued for one to ys, from \$60 per day to a flat fee of \$180.		Same as the Executive.		
Fiscal eff	fect: Potential small gain in permit revenue for Fund 7066.		Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.		

Department of Commerce		Main Operating Appropriations Bill H.B. 96
Executive		As Passed By House
COMCD24 F-11 liquor permit fee		
R.C. 4303.2011		R.C. 4303.2011
Adjusts the F-11 liquor permit (craft beer festival organizer) fee, which is is issued for one to three days, from \$60 per day to a flat fee of \$180.		Same as the Executive.
Fiscal effect: Potential minimal fee revenue gain to the Undivided Liquor Permit Fund (Fund 7066).		Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.
COMCD23 S-2 liquor permit renewal fee		
R.C. 4303.233		R.C. 4303.233
Increases the S-2 liquor permit (direct sales of wine from wine manufacturers to consumers) renewal fee from \$100 to \$250, the same fee as the initial permit.	I	Same as the Executive.
Fiscal effect: Potential small gain in permit revenue for Fund 7066.		Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.
COMCD36 Written agency agreements		
		R.C. 4735.01, 4735.55, 4735.56, 4735.80
No provision.		Requires a real estate broker or salesperson to enter into an agency agreement with the seller, purchaser, or tenant and defines "nonexclusive agency agreement" for purposes of real estate transactions
		Fiscal effect: None.
COMCD29 Real estate salesperson and broker applications		
R.C. 4735.06, 4735.09		R.C. 4735.06, 4735.09
Requires an applicant for a license as a real estate salesperson or broker to include the address of current residence on the application. Requires an applicant for a real estate broker license that is not an individual, to include on the application the address of the current residence of each of the applicant's members or officers. Exempts the address from the Public Records Law.	I	Same as the Executive.
Fiscal effect: Minimal potential costs to redact these addresses as necessary.		Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.

Departi	ment of Commerce		Main Operating Appropriations Bill H.B. 96
Executive			As Passed By House
COMCD17	Specialty contractor license application		
R.C.	4740.06		R.C. 4740.06
	s the requirement that an application for a specialty contractor verified by the applicant's oath (notarized).		Same as the Executive.
Fiscal effe	ect: None.		Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.
COMCD18	Elevator mechanic's and contractor's licenses		
R.C.	4785.041, Section 125.10		R.C. 4785.041, Section 125.10
contractor	s the requirement that a licensed elevator mechanic or r seeking a temporary continuing education waiver due to a y disability sign the waiver application under penalty of perjury.		Same as the Executive.
	s the requirement that a physician's statement which a licensee nit regarding the temporary disability, be certified.		Same as the Executive.
	ect: Potentially increases the likelihood of these waivers being , although presumably, there would be few such instances.		Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.
COMCD2	Division of Real Estate and Professional Licensing		
Section:	203.40		Section: 203.40
used to pa real estate	Fund 4B20 ALI 800631, Real Estate Appraisal Recovery, to be ay settlements, judgements, and court orders for violations of e appraiser laws. Appropriates additional amounts requested by Director and approved by the OBM Director.		Same as the Executive.
settlemen	Fund 5480 ALI 800611, Real Estate Recovery, to be used to pay ts, judgements, and court orders under real estate broker law hove, appropriates additional amounts for this purpose if		Same as the Executive.
be used to inspector	Fund 5VD0 ALI 800653, Real Estate Home Inspector Recovery, to pay settlements, judgements, and court orders under home law and, as above, appropriates additional amounts for this necessary.		Same as the Executive.

COMCD1	Unclaimed Funds-Claims		
Section:	243.20		Section: 243.20
pay claim	Fund 5430 ALI 800625, Unclaimed Funds-Claims, to be used to s under the Unclaimed Funds Law. Appropriates additional requested by the COM Director and approved by the OBM		Same as the Executive.
COMCD3	Fire Department Grants		
Section:	243.20		Section: 243.20
to make g one or mo comprised small tow departme	res that Fund 5460 ALI 800639, Fire Department Grants, be used grants to volunteer fire departments, fire departments that serve ore small municipalities or small townships, joint fire districts d of fire departments that primarily serve small municipalities or enships, local units of government responsible for such fire ents, and local units of government responsible for the provision otection services for small municipalities or small townships.	1	(1) Same as the Executive.
equipmer reimburse discretion	res the grants to be used to purchase firefighting or rescue nt or gear or similar items, to provide full or partial ement for the documented costs of firefighter training, or, at the of the State Fire Marshal, to cover costs for providing fire n services in the grant recipient's jurisdiction.		(2) Same as the Executive.
Marshal's to selecte	rks up to \$1,300,000 in each fiscal year to pay for the State Fire costs of providing certain firefighter training classes at no cost d students, and allows the State Fire Marshal to establish the ion and selection process for such classes.		(3) Same as the Executive.
Communi	rks up to \$4,000,000 in each fiscal year for Multi-Agency Radio cation System (MARCS) grants. Establishes the criteria for these grants, including authority for the State Fire Marshal to	I	(4) Same as the Executive.

As Passed By House

# Department of Commerce

Executive

recipient.

give preference to grants that will enhance emergency communication networks in the geographic region that includes and is adjacent to the applicant's jurisdiction. Limits the awards to \$50,000 annually per

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(5) Limits grant awards for firefighter or rescue equipment or gear or fire department costs of providing fire protection services to \$15,000 per fiscal year, or up to \$25,000 per fiscal year if an eligible entity serves a jurisdiction in which the Governor declared a natural disaster during the preceding or current fiscal year in which the grant was awarded, and up to \$15,000 per fiscal year for full or partial reimbursement of the documented costs of firefighter training, which could be in addition to any grant funds awarded for equipment or fire protection services. Requires the State Fire Marshal to determine the total amounts to be allocated for each eligible purpose.	(5) Same as the Executive.
(6) Requires the State Fire Marshal to administer the grant program in accordance with rules adopted as part of the State Fire Code, which may further define eligible entities and establish criteria for the awarding and expenditure of grant funds.	(6) Same as the Executive.
(7) Permits any appropriations in excess of the amount allocated for the grants to be used to administer the grant program.	(7) Same as the Executive.
(8) No provision.	(8) Earmarks \$30,000 in FY 2026 to be used to support volunteer firefighter training programs at the Northwestern Ohio Volunteer Firemen's Association Fire School.
COMCD4 Cash transfers to the Division of Real Estate Operating Fund	
Section: 243.30	Section: 243.30
Allows the OBM Director, upon the request of the COM Director to transfer cash from the Real Estate Recovery Fund (Fund 5480) to the Division of Real Estate Operating Fund (Fund 5490) when the Fund 5480 cash balance exceeds \$250,000, provided that the minimum remaining amount in Fund 5480 is at least \$250,000.	Same as the Executive, but subjects the transfer to Controlling Board approval.
Allows the OBM Director, upon the request of the COM Director to transfer cash from the Real Estate Appraiser Recovery Fund (Fund 4B20) to Fund 5490 when the Fund 4B20 cash balance exceeds \$200,000, provided that the minimum remaining amount in Fund 4B20 is at least \$200,000.	Same as the Executive, but subjects the transfer to Controlling Board approval.

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COMCD5 Cash transfers to Small Government Fire Department Services Revolution	ving Loan Fund	
Section: 243.30	Section: 243.30	
Allows the OBM Director, upon the request of the COM Director, to transfer up to \$600,000 cash from the State Fire Marshal Fund (Fund 5460) to the Small Government Fire Department Services Revolving Loan Fund (Fund 5F10).	Same as the Executive, but subjects the transfer to Controlling Board approval.	
COMCD6 Cash Transfers to the Ohio Investor Recovery Fund		
Section: 243.30	Section: 243.30	
Allows the OBM Director, upon the request of the COM Director, to transfer up to \$2,500,000 in each fiscal year from the Divisions of Securities Fund (Fund 5500) to the Investor Recovery Fund (Fund 5XK0).	Same as the Executive.	
Allows the COM Director, if sufficient funds are available in the Division of Securities Fund (Fund 5500), to request additional cash transfers from Fund 5500 to Fund 5XK0 in an amount agreed upon between the COM Director and OBM Director, to pay awards of restitution assistance and any expenses incurred.	Same as the Executive.	
Earmarks up to \$2,500,000 in each fiscal year from Fund 5XK0 ALI 800657, Ohio Investor Recovery, to provide restitution assistance to victims who (1) are identified in a final administrative order issued by the Division of Securities or a final court order as a purchaser damaged by a sale or contract for sale made violating the Ohio Securities Law, and (2) have not received the full amount of any restitution ordered in a final order before the application for restitution assistance is due.	Same as the Executive.	
COMCD7 Cash transfers to the Investor Education and Enforcement Expense Fund		
Section: 243.30	Section: 243.30	
Requires the OBM Director, on July 1, 2025, or as soon as possible thereafter, to transfer \$5,000,000 from the Division of Securities Fund (Fund 5500) to the Investor Education and Enforcement Expense Fund (Fund 5GK0).	Same as the Executive.	

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Executive	2		As Passed By House	
three mo	e OBM Director, upon the request of the COM Director, every nths, to transfer up to 5% of the fees and charges received in 0 to Fund 5GK0.		Same as the Executive.	
COMCD8	Cash transfers to the Financial Literacy Education Fund			
Section:	243.30		Section: 243.30	
up to \$15	e OBM Director, upon request of the COM Director, to transfer 0,000 in each fiscal year from the Consumer Finance Fund (Fund the Financial Literacy Education Fund (Fund 5FW0).		Same as the Executive.	
once ever	e OBM Director, upon the request of the COM Director, at least ry three months, to transfer up to 15% of the fees and charges in Fund 5530 to Fund 5FW0.		Same as the Executive.	
COMCD9	Claiming unclaimed funds for the State of Ohio and political subdivisi	ion	S	
Section:	243.30		Section: 243.30	
OBM Dire and not o	e Treasurer of State, in consultation with the COM Director and ector, to claim unclaimed funds in the name of the State of Ohio therwise attributable to an administrative department and hese unclaimed funds to be credited to the GRF.		Same as the Executive.	
OBM Dire subdivisic requires t	e county treasurer, in consultation with the COM Director and ector, to claim unclaimed funds in the name of the political on and not otherwise attributable to the political subdivision and chese unclaimed funds to be credited to the appropriate fund of ical subdivision.	I	Same as the Executive.	
claim with the claim, incurred b ownershi taking act	y person with a property interest in the unclaimed funds to file a h the COM Director and, upon sufficient proof of the validity of , allows the Director to pay the claim less any expenses and costs by the state or political subdivision in securing full title and p of the unclaimed funds. Prevents any other claimant from cion against the state or political subdivision for or on account of ent of the claim after the payment is made.		Same as the Executive.	

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Fiscal effect: Potential revenue gains to the state GRF, or to applicable county funds for claiming applicable unclaimed funds. Currently the state has \$240,000 in unclaimed fund properties to which it is the rightful holder that could be collected and transferred to the GRF under this provision.	Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.

Department of Commerce	Main Operating Appropriations Bill H.B. 96
Executive	As Passed By House
MHACD35 High-THC Cannabis Impact Research Study	
	Section: 751.90
No provision.	Requires DBH to collaborate with COM and a public university or research consortium to assess cannabis regulation and the health risks and benefits of cannabis use.
No provision.	Requires DBH to submit a report to the Governor and General Assembly by June 30, 2026, and June 30, 2027, and to publish the report on DBH's website. (See MHACD31).

Department of Commerce	Main Operating Appropriations Bill H.B. 96
Executive	As Passed By House
DEVCD58 Local Development Projects	
	Section: 259.20
No provision.	Makes the following earmarks of GRF ALI 195503, Local Development Projects:
(1) No provision.	(1) \$500,000 in each fiscal year for Baldwin Wallace University to expand the Northeast Ohio Flight Information Exchange (NEOFIX) and support development of flight information exchanges in other communities in Ohio.
(2) No provision.	(2) \$500,000 in FY 2026 for the Mahoning Valley Scrappers for stadium maintenance and improvements.
(3) No provision.	(3) \$500,000 in FY 2026 for NewBridge Cleveland Center for Arts and Technology to support at-risk adult learner healthcare professional certification and job placement.
(4) No provision.	(4) \$250,000 in each fiscal year for the Neighborhood Alliance to support the homeless shelter in Lorain County.
(5) No provision.	(5) \$250,000 in each fiscal year for the city of Coshocton for a water line extension serving Warsaw and the River View School.
(6) No provision.	(6) \$250,000 in each fiscal year for Freedom a la Cart to support workforce initiatives and programs for human trafficking survivors.
(7) No provision.	(7) \$125,000 in each fiscal year for the Buckeye Lake Region Corporation to support community development.
(8) No provision.	(8) \$85,000 in FY 2026 for the Stark County Minority Business Association to support the development and operation of the Kirk Schuring Business Development Center and Innovation Hub.
(9) No provision.	(9) \$45,000 in FY 2026 to provide a \$15,000 grant for one fire department in each of Geauga, Lake, and Portage counties, selected by the DEV Director, for the installation of baby boxes.
(10) No provision.	(10) \$10,000 in FY 2026 for the Salem Worlds War Memorial Building Association to support the development of a job training center.

Department of Commerce	Main Operating Appropriations Bill H.B. 96
Executive	As Passed By House
No provision.	(11) \$250,000 in FY 2026 for Boardman Township to provide matching funds for the flood mitigation assistance grant awarded to the township by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
No provision.	(12) \$15,000 in FY 2026 for sidewalk improvements and repairs in the Village of Grand River.

Department of Commerce	Main Operating Appropriations Bill H.B. 96
Executive	As Passed By House
PRXCD1 Cash Transfer from the Medical Marijuana Control Program Fund to	the Drug Database Fund
Section: 367.20	Section: 367.20
Permits the OBM Director to transfer up to \$2,745,500 in each fiscal year from the Medical Marijuana Control Program Fund (Fund 5SYO), used by COM, to the Drug Database Fund (Fund 5SGO), used by PRX at the request of the PRX Director.	Same as the Executive.

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### **Department of Commerce**

#### Executive

#### **As Passed By House**

#### **Other Taxation Provisions**

- TAXCD20 Adult use marijuana excise tax: rate and distribution
- R.C. 3780.02, 3780.03, 3780.10, 3780.18 (repealed), 3780.19 (repealed), 3780.22, 3780.23, 3780.25, 3780.26, 3780.30, Section 801.60

Increases the rate of the excise tax on adult use marijuana, beginning on July 1, 2025, from 10% to 20%.

Imposes a 20% excise tax on the illegal sale of marijuana by an unlicensed seller.

Repeals current law's tax revenue distributions (36% to the state Cannabis Social Equity and Jobs Fund, 36% to the Host Community Cannabis Fund, 25% to the state Substance Abuse and Addiction Fund, and 3% to COM and TAX for administration purposes) and reallocates revenue from the tax to substance abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery programs, the 9-8-8 suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline, county jail grant programs, training of peace officers and troopers, construction and renovation of such training facilities, local drug task forces, safe driver programs, Ohio investigative unit operations, Ohio poison control programs and laboratory testing, and temporarily to the AGO for administering requests for expungements. Limits some allocations for these purposes and directs any remaining receipts to the GRF.

Fiscal effect: The Executive estimates an increase of \$86.8 million in FY 2026 and \$175.7 million in FY 2027 in adult use marijuana tax revenue.

R.C. 3780.02, 3780.03, 3780.10, 3780.18 (repealed), 3780.19 (repealed), 3780.22, 3780.23 (repealed), 3780.25, 3780.26, 3780.30, Section 801.60

No provision.

Same as the Executive, but lowers the rate to 10%.

Same as the Executive on repealing current law's tax revenue distributions, but reallocates revenues from the tax all to the GRF except distributing 20% of tax revenue, for five years, to the Host Community Cannabis Fund to be distributed to municipalities and townships that have at least one adult-use dispensary or a location for which a provisional dispensary license is issued before July 1, 2025.

Fiscal effect: Approximately \$95.6 million in FY 2026 and \$156.2 million in FY 2027 of adult use marijuana tax would be allocated to the GRF while the Host Community Cannabis Fund would receive about \$23.9 million in FY 2026 and \$39.1 million in FY 2027.

Department of Commerce	Main Operating Appropriations Bill H.B. 96	
Executive	As Passed By House	
TAXCD21 Adult use cannabis: tax information exchange		
R.C. 3780.06	R.C. 3780.06	
Requires TAX, upon the request of COM, to share pertinent information about the tax violations of an existing adult use cannabis licensee.	Same as the Executive.	
Fiscal effect: None. Current law only allows TAX to request this information for applicants seeking a license.	Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.	

Department of Commerce	Main Operating Appropriations Bill H.B. 96
Executive	As Passed By House
LOCCD9 Mechanic's liens	
	R.C. 1311.04
No provision.	Changes the default expiration date of a notice of commencement from six years to four years.
No provision.	Requires the notice to contain the statement: "The expiration date for this notice of commencement is four years from the date of recording unless a different date is specified herein."
No provision.	Allows the person who contracted for the improvement, upon its completion, to request that the county recorder indicate that the notice of commencement is expired. Requires the county recorder to include the expiration in the official record.
No provision.	Requires the person to serve notice, by regular mail, of such a request on the original contractor, subcontractor, and lower tier project participant that served a notice of furnishing.
No provision.	Specifies that the expiration of a notice of commencement does not affect the attachment, continuance, or priority of any lien.
No provision.	Specifies that an owner's failure to serve an affidavit on a contractor of an improvement does not affect the owner's rights or obligations under continuing law.
	Fiscal effect: Minimal cost increase to county recorders for additional filings.