

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7383**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1226

**NOTE PREPARED:** Feb 12, 2009

**BILL AMENDED:** Feb 9, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Ohio River Bridges Project Commission.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Stemler

**FIRST SPONSOR:** Sen. Hershman

**BILL STATUS:** As Passed House

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**  **GENERAL**  
 **DEDICATED**  
 **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) This bill establishes the Ohio River Bridges Project Commission. It provides that the purpose of the commission is to facilitate and accelerate the completion of the Ohio River bridges project by reducing cost from further delays and developing legislative proposals as necessary to remove any hindrances that may develop. The bill provides that the Commission expires December 31, 2019.

**Effective Date:** Upon passage.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** (Revised) This bill establishes the 14-member Ohio River Bridges Project Commission. The purpose of the Commission is to facilitate completion of the Ohio River bridges project by developing legislative proposals as needed to solve problems with the project. The Commission may study the following topics relevant to the project:

- (1) Funding options.
- (2) Environmental issues.
- (3) Opportunities to work with neighboring states concerning an accelerated completion of the project.
- (4) Economic impact on Indiana.
- (5) Urgency of the project.
- (6) Safety concerns to motorists
- (7) Other factors that hinder completion of the project.

The Commission is to operate under the policies governing study committees adopted by the Legislative Council. Legislative Council resolutions in the past have established budgets for interim study committees in the amount of \$9,500 per interim for committees with fewer than 16 members. The Commission is to file

an annual report with the Legislative Council in an electronic format by November 1 of each year. Legislative Services Agency is to provide the staff for the support of the Commission. The Commission may meet at any time during the calendar year.

The Commission expires December 31, 2019.

The appointments are as follows:

- (a) four members each from the House and Senate, with at least one member each from the House and Senate from a legislative district in which a project bridge is located.
- (b) the chairs of the House and Senate Standing Transportation Committees.
- (c) the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation or the Commissioner's designee.
- (d) the president of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, or the president's designee.
- (e) the Governor serving ex officio or the governor's designee. The Governor's designee serves at the pleasure of the Governor.
- (f) the elected member of the United States House of Representatives from Indiana's Ninth Congressional District serving ex officio or the representative's designee. A designee of the representative serves at the pleasure of the representative.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Legislative Council; Legislative Services Agency; Department of Transportation; Indiana Economic Development Corporation; Governor's office.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:**

**Fiscal Analyst:** James Sperlik, 317-232-9866.