

As Reported by the House Civil Justice Committee

133rd General Assembly

Regular Session

2019-2020

Am. H. B. No. 50

Representative Greenspan

Cosponsor: Representative Hambley

A BILL

To enact section 339.062 of the Revised Code to
require that all rights to and interests in
charter county hospital employee discoveries,
inventions, or patents are the property of the
charter county hospital.

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

Section 1. That section 339.062 of the Revised Code be
enacted to read as follows:

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Sec. 339.062. (A) As used in this section, "charter county
hospital" means a county hospital based in a county that has
adopted a charter under Section 3 of Article X, Ohio
Constitution.

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(B) All rights to, interests in, and income from
intellectual property, including discoveries, inventions, or
patents, that result from research or investigation conducted in
an experiment station, bureau, laboratory, research facility, or
other facility of a charter county hospital, or by employees of
any charter county hospital acting within the scope of their
employment or with funding, equipment, or infrastructure

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provided by or through a charter county hospital, shall be the 19
sole property of that charter county hospital. No individual, 20
firm, association, corporation, or governmental agency that uses 21
the facilities of a charter county hospital in connection with 22
conducting research or investigation, and no employee of a 23
charter county hospital participating in or making discoveries 24
or inventions or obtaining patents when acting within the scope 25
of the employee's employment, shall have any rights to, 26
interests in, or income from such intellectual property, 27
including discoveries, inventions, or patents, except as may, by 28
determination of the board of county hospital trustees of a 29
charter county hospital, be assigned, licensed, transferred, 30
sold, or otherwise disposed of, to those entities or employees 31
in accordance with division (C) of this section or in accordance 32
with rules adopted under division (D) of this section. 33

(C) As may be determined from time to time by the board of 34
county hospital trustees of a charter county hospital, the 35
charter county hospital may retain, assign, license, transfer, 36
sell, or otherwise dispose of, in whole or in part and upon such 37
terms as the board may direct, any and all rights to, interests 38
in, or income from any intellectual property, including 39
discoveries, inventions, or patents, that the charter county 40
hospital owns or may acquire. Such dispositions may be to any 41
individual, firm, association, corporation, or governmental 42
agency, or to an employee of the charter county hospital, as the 43
board may direct. All income or proceeds derived or retained 44
from such dispositions shall be applied to the general or 45
special use of the charter county hospital as determined by its 46
board. 47

(D) (1) Notwithstanding any provision of the Revised Code 48
to the contrary, including sections 102.03, 102.04, 2921.42, and 49

2921.43 of the Revised Code, the board of county hospital 50
trustees of a charter county hospital shall adopt rules under 51
section 339.06 of the Revised Code that set forth circumstances 52
under which an employee of the charter county hospital may 53
solicit or accept, and under which a person may give or promise 54
to give to an employee, a financial interest in any individual, 55
firm, association, corporation, or governmental agency to which 56
the board has assigned, licensed, transferred, sold, or 57
otherwise disposed of the charter county hospital's rights to, 58
interests in, or income from its intellectual property, 59
including discoveries or inventions made or created by that 60
employee or patents issued to that employee when acting within 61
the scope of the employee's employment. 62

(2) The rules shall include the following: 63

(a) A requirement that each charter county hospital 64
employee disclose to the board of county hospital trustees of 65
the charter county hospital any financial interest the employee 66
holds in any individual, firm, association, corporation, or 67
governmental agency as described in division (D)(1) of this 68
section; 69

(b) A requirement that all disclosures made under division 70
(D)(2)(a) of this section are reviewed by officials designated 71
by the board. The officials designated under this division shall 72
determine the information that shall be disclosed and safeguards 73
that shall be applied in order to manage, reduce, or eliminate 74
any actual or potential conflict of interest; 75

(c) A requirement that in implementing division (D) of 76
this section, all board members shall be governed by Chapter 77
102. and sections 2921.42 and 2921.43 of the Revised Code; 78

(d) Guidelines to ensure that any financial interest held 79
by any employee of the charter county hospital does not result 80
in misuse of the employees or resources of the charter county 81
hospital for the benefit of the individual, firm, association, 82
corporation, or governmental agency in which the interest is 83
held or does not otherwise interfere with duties and 84
responsibilities of the employee who holds the interest. 85

(3) Rules adopted under division (D) of this section may 86
include other provisions, at the discretion of the board of 87
county hospital trustees of the charter county hospital. 88

(E) Notwithstanding division (D)(1) of this section, the 89
Ohio ethics commission, at the request of the board of county 90
hospital trustees of a charter county hospital, shall advise the 91
board in the implementation of the board's rules adopted under 92
division (D) of this section and address any matter that is 93
outside the scope of those rules. 94