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Auditor of State Bulletin

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Date Issued: September 6, 2012

**TO: Regional Councils of Governments and All Other Public Offices, IPAs**

**FROM: Dave Yost, Ohio Auditor of State**

**SUBJECT: Regional Council of Governments Reporting Requirements under HB 487**

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Recently enacted House Bill (HB) 487, requires regional councils of governments (COGs), created under Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 167, to notify the Auditor of State of their existence as follows:

~~Under ORC 167.04(D)(1), "Within ten [10] business days after forming a regional council of governments, the officers of the council shall notify the auditor of state of the regional council's formation and shall provide on a form prescribed by the auditor of state the information regarding the regional council the auditor of state considers necessary."~~

**Eff. 10/29/18:**  
provide a copy of the council's by-laws,

**See additional requirements effective 10/29/18 included below.**

~~Additionally, under ORC 701.60, any regional council of governments that was formed and is operating before the effective date of the amendment - September 10, 2012 - shall notify the Auditor of State of its existence within 30 business days and provide the information required under ORC 167.04 within 30 business days after the effective date (i.e. by October 23, 2012).~~

The Auditor of State has created an online reporting portal for regional COGs to meet the requirements of HB 487 on our website [www.ohioauditor.gov](http://www.ohioauditor.gov). To directly access this reporting portal, please click here: [www.ohioauditor.gov/services/lgs/COG/Registration.aspx](http://www.ohioauditor.gov/services/lgs/COG/Registration.aspx)  
<https://ohioauditor.gov/local/cog/>

Every regional council of governments is required to provide the following information to the Auditor of State via the reporting portal ~~within the 10 day or 30 day deadlines~~ described above:

- Contact information – including the official name of the COG, mailing address, county of fiscal agent, telephone number, name of the contact person and email address;
- Date the COG was formed;
- List of participating and/or member organizations; and
- Copy of the COG's by-laws and governance structure (in a PDF format).

Dave Yost  
Ohio Auditor of State

**Additional ORC 167.40(D) Requirements (effective 10/29/18):**

The council shall take no official action, other than formation, before notifying the auditor of state of its formation in accordance with this section. Any official action the council takes before making that notification, including entering into any contract, is void.