



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: S.B. 123 of the 129th G.A.

Date: September 27, 2011

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor: Sen. Bacon

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Requires the Ohio eLicense Center web site to include information submitted by certain health professionals to their licensing boards regarding the characteristics of their professional practices

State Fiscal Highlights

- **Ohio Department of Administrative Services (DAS).** DAS is required to post information to the eLicense Center web site that is received by certain health-related licensing boards regarding their licensees' unique areas of practice. DAS will need to modify the eLicense Center web site in order to post this information and make it readily accessible to the public. According to DAS, the cost of updating the web site will be between \$44,000 and \$60,000.
- **State licensing boards.** Several health-related licensing boards are required to establish categories that define unique areas of practice relevant to their licensees. Boards must report to DAS regarding licensees' plans to practice within one of these categories. Costs for establishing the categories and submitting data to DAS will likely be minimal.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill requires certain health care professionals, when applying for a new or renewed license, to specify unique professional practice characteristics, including specialty areas of practice, age-specific areas of practice, and excluded areas of practice. If an applicant subject to the bill indicates a unique professional practice characteristic on the application for licensure, the applicant's licensing board is required to send this information to the Office of Information Technology in DAS within 60 days of issuing the license. DAS is required to post the information on the state's eLicense Center web site. DAS currently maintains basic information about licensees, including contact, credential, and enforcement data on the eLicense Center web site.

The licensing boards subject to the bill are: the State Dental Board; the State Medical Board; the State Board of Psychology; the Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology; the Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board; the Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board; and the Ohio Board of Dietetics.

Department of Administrative Services

According to DAS, the eLicense Center web site will need to be modified to enable additional data storage and make the data readily accessible to the public. DAS estimates that the updates to the eLicense Center web site will cost between \$44,000 and \$60,000. Each time that a licensing board submits information regarding a professional's specific area of practice, DAS will need to promptly post this information on the eLicense Center web site. Any costs associated with collecting and posting data on the web site are likely to be minimal.

Licensing boards

Under the bill, several health-related licensing boards are required to establish categories of unique practice characteristics relevant to the professionals that they license. If an applicant for licensure indicates a desire to practice using any of the relevant categories established by the licensing board, the applicant is required to identify the specific area(s) in which they plan to practice. Licensing boards are required to submit this information to the Office of Information Technology within DAS. The costs incurred by boards for establishing categories and submitting information to DAS are likely to be minimal.