
Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill requires a person who wishes to operate a business that offers tattooing or body piercing services to apply for a permit to the board of health of the city or general health district in which the business is located. Under the bill's provisions, the duties of the local boards of health include adopting rules; providing and processing application forms; and conducting at least one inspection of a business prior to approval (the board is permitted to do additional inspections).

Fees are to be established by the board by rule and are to be deposited into the health fund of the district that the board serves. Although current law permits the district advisory council or the legislative authority of a city to disapprove a fee, it is unlikely to happen provided the fee is justified as the amount necessary to cover expenditures.

According to a spokesperson from the Association of Ohio Health Commissioners, the number of such businesses in Ohio is not known; however, it is estimated to range from 2 to perhaps 50 in an area as large as Cleveland, Columbus or Cincinnati. Additionally, some local boards are currently providing regulatory services if the local board has adopted local ordinances that provide for regulation. Current fees in these areas range from \$100-\$200 per approved business and cover the board's cost of regulation. This fee range is not expected to vary following the bill's implementation. Therefore, it is estimated that the bill's provisions will increase expenditures minimally for the local boards and that fees generally will cover a board's costs and generate a minimal amount of revenue.

The bill also provides that violations of the bill's provisions are a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. For misdemeanors, prosecution and incarceration costs would be borne by the counties, while municipalities and counties would share adjudication costs. Since it is assumed that the occurrence of offenses would not be significant, prosecution costs and fine revenue are assumed to be minimal.

The bill also provides a method for parental or custodial consent for individuals under 18 years of age. This provision has no state or local fiscal effect.

□ *LBO staff: Barbara Petering, Senior Analyst*