

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

123rd General Assembly of Ohio

BILL: Am. Sub. H.B. 87

DATE: June 3, 1999

STATUS: As Passed by the Senate

SPONSOR: Rep. Bateman

LOCAL IMPACT STATEMENT REQUIRED: No — Minimal cost

CONTENTS: Restricts the use of certain titles relating to the practice of occupational safety and industrial hygiene

State Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

Local Fiscal Highlights

LOCAL GOVERNMENT	FY 1999	FY 2000	FUTURE YEARS
Counties			
Revenues	Potential minimal increase	Potential minimal increase	Potential minimal increase
Expenditures	Potential minimal increase	Potential minimal increase	Potential minimal increase
Municipalities			
Revenues	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
Expenditures	Potential minimal increase	Potential minimal increase	Potential minimal increase

Note: For most local governments, the fiscal year is the calendar year. The school district fiscal year is July 1 through June 30.

- The bill would create a fourth degree misdemeanor offense that could increase expenses for municipal and county courts, but may also increase fine revenue. There would likely be few such prosecutions.



Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill would allow only those persons holding valid certificates, issued by the appropriate professional boards, to use various titles in the field of industrial hygiene or occupational safety. In some cases, the bill would allow persons to use these titles if they are completing apprenticeships or finishing accredited courses in these fields. Under terms of the bill, professionals and apprentices seeking to practice industrial hygiene or occupational safety must receive certification from the American Board of Industrial Hygiene (ABIH). Professionals and apprentices seeking to practice occupational safety must receive certification from the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP).

The bill includes definitions of both industrial hygiene and occupational safety. Industrial hygienists are trained to monitor and evaluate the quality of workplace environmental conditions. For example, an industrial hygienist would use scientific instruments to ensure that sufficient fresh air is being circulated and that airborne contaminants are ventilated from work areas. Safety professionals are trained to inspect work areas for hazards that could cause injuries. For example, safety professionals would make sure that scaffolding is properly assembled and secured.

Finally, the bill would create a new fourth degree misdemeanor penalty. Any person who uses a title or professional designation without the proper qualifications would be subject to a maximum fine of up to \$250 and thirty days in jail. Assuming that very few people would be charged with this misdemeanor, the cost of prosecuting these cases would be minimal.

□ *LBO staff: Nelson D. Fox, Budget/Policy Analyst*

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