



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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## Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

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**Bill:** [S.B. 200 of the 128th G.A.](#)

**Date:** February 8, 2010

**Status:** As Introduced

**Sponsor:** Sen. Morano

**Local Impact Statement Procedure Required:** No — No local cost

**Contents:** Authorizes certified registered nurse anesthetists to issue prescriptions during certain phases of patient care

### State Fiscal Highlights

- The bill may result in a negligible increase in costs for the State Board of Pharmacy, Board of Nursing, and Respiratory Care Board.

### Local Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.

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## Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill authorizes a certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNA) to issue a prescription under which the CRNA directs a licensed healthcare professional acting within that individual's scope of practice to administer a drug to a patient, subject to two restrictions: (1) the prescription may be issued only during the phases of patient care directly related to the activities a CRNA is authorized to perform under current law, and (2) when being supervised by a podiatrist or dentist, the CRNA's authority to issue a prescription may not exceed the podiatrist's or dentist's authority to issue a prescription. The bill specifies that a CRNA is not required to obtain a certificate to prescribe in order to issue prescriptions under the bill.

### Boards of Pharmacy and Nursing

The State Board of Pharmacy currently governs the practice of pharmacy and enforces drug laws referring to the professionals who are authorized to prescribe drugs, dangerous drugs, and drug therapy related devices in the course of professional practice as "licensed health professionals authorized to prescribe drugs" or "prescribers." (The list of licensed professionals included in this definition can be found in the LSC Bill Analysis.) The bill includes CRNAs who prescribe drugs in accordance with the bill's provisions in the definition of "licensed health professionals authorized to prescribe drugs" or "prescribers."

Alleged violations of prescriptive authority are investigated by the State Board of Pharmacy, although the Board of Nursing could take disciplinary actions against a CRNA who violates the scope of practice. The State Board of Pharmacy may experience a negligible increase in costs associated with investigating complaints of CRNAs alleged to prescribe beyond what is authorized by law. Depending upon the number of violations, the Board of Nursing could experience a negligible increase in costs associated with issuing disciplinary actions.

### Respiratory Care Board

The bill adds circumstances under which a respiratory therapist is permitted to practice: (1) pursuant to a prescription or other order for respiratory care issued by a CRNA, and (2) under the authority of a CRNA who is supervised by a physician. The bill restricts respiratory therapists to practicing under the circumstances described above to only during the phases of patient care directly related to the activities CRNAs are authorized to perform. If the Respiratory Care Board receives complaints of violations related to the practice of respiratory therapists under the direction of CRNAs, the Board may experience a negligible increase in costs to investigate and, when necessary, take disciplinary action.