Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: Am. H.B. 244 of the 129th G.A. **Date**: December 8, 2011

Status: As Reported by House Health & Aging **Sponsor**: Reps. Gonzales and Roegner

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Permits authorized paramedics to administer the flu vaccine to firefighters or emergency medical technicians

State Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- The requirement for emergency medical service organizations (EMSO) to establish written protocols and training necessary for an emergency medical technician-paramedic to administer the flu vaccine to certain people is unlikely to generate more than a minimal increase in expenditures for public EMSOs.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

According to the Division of Emergency Medical Services at the Department of Public Safety, there are approximately 1,300 emergency medical service organizations (EMSO) in the state. Of that number, approximately 450 are private for-profit organizations (i.e., hospitals) and the remainder are fire department-based.

The bill requires both public and private EMSOs to establish written protocols and training necessary for an emergency medical technician-paramedic to administer the flu vaccine. This provision is unlikely to generate more than a minimal increase in expenditures for public EMSOs. The bill also permits the director or advisory board of an EMSO (either public or private) to authorize an emergency medical technician-paramedic within the organization to administer flu vaccines to (1) a firefighter, paid or volunteer, or (2) another emergency medical technician. EMSOs that choose to provide flu vaccines to their employees on-site may find this to be a relatively low-cost option.

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