



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: [Sub. H.B. 303 of the 129th G.A.](#)
(LSC 129 0291-2)

Date: December 3, 2012

Status: In Senate Health, Human Services & Aging

Sponsor: Reps. Schuring and Carney

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Revises laws governing nurses, medication aides, dialysis technicians, and certified community health workers

State Fiscal Highlights

- Potential negligible increase or decrease in administrative costs for the Ohio Board of Nursing to implement certain provisions in the bill.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill modifies laws administered by the Ohio Board of Nursing, including laws governing Board procedures, the professionals the Board regulates (nurses, dialysis technicians, medication aides, and community health workers), disciplinary actions, criminal records checks, the Board's chemical dependency monitoring program, and advance practice nurse (APN) externships.¹ The bill restructures some of the Board's current laws, without changing the substance of those laws and eliminates obsolete laws. The bill conforms some existing law to current practice and to federal requirements. The bill eliminates obsolete fees that are no longer collected and slightly modifies a few of the fees currently charged by the Board. The bill makes technical and conforming changes to other Ohio statutes made necessary by the bill's modifications to the laws administered by the Board.

The Board of Nursing does not expect any significant fiscal impact from the bill. The Board does not expect the bill to result in any significant change in staff levels, disciplinary costs, administrative processes, or the number of licenses or certificates issued. The Board estimates that the slight fee modifications will only affect small populations and, therefore, will not have a significant impact on fee revenues. While it is possible that some of the provisions may result in a negligible increase in administrative costs, it is also possible that other provisions may result in a decrease in administrative costs. Any increase in administrative costs will be absorbed within the Board's existing resources.

Nurse Education Grant Program

The bill extends the repeal date of the Nurse Education Grant Program from December 31, 2013 to December 31, 2023. The bill maintains the current funding mechanism for the program, which is \$10 from each biennial renewal fee the Board collects.

An amount equal to \$10 of each renewal fee is transferred quarterly by the Director of Budget and Management from the Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund (Fund 4K90), which is used to collect the license fees for the Board of Nursing and 26 other boards, to the Nurse Education Grant Program Fund (Fund 5AC0). About \$2.4 million was transferred from Fund 4K90 to Fund 5AC0 over the FY 2011-FY 2012 biennium. Under current law, these transfers would end by December next year, which would result in a higher balance in Fund 4K90 of about \$2.4 million over each biennium going forward. Fund 4K90 is a general operating fund for 27 boards in the state.

¹ The bill increases the extension period for an APN externship from one year to two years and also reduces the number of requirements certain advanced practice registered nurses with prescriptive authority need to fulfill to obtain a certificate to prescribe without completing an externship.

The Nurse Education Grant Program provides grants to Ohio nurse education programs that have partnerships with health care facilities, community health agencies, or other education programs to establish support partnerships that will increase the enrollment capacity of the programs. The program began in January 2004. For the current grant period (September 1, 2011 to August 31, 2013), the Board of Nursing awarded 15 grants totaling \$2.5 million to nursing education programs. Grants may be awarded to schools and education centers for pre-licensure programs for licensed practical nurses and registered nurses as well as for post-graduate programs.

Emergency clause

The bill includes an emergency clause, which only applies to a provision regarding the instruction required for certain applicants to administer schedule II controlled substances. The provision permits the Board to accept completion of instruction on schedule II controlled substances regardless of the form in which it was completed, as long as the instruction meets all other requirements established by the Board in rules. The effective date for all other provisions in the bill is delayed by 90 days.