Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Wendy Risner

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: Am. H.B. 165 of the 130th G.A. **Date**: June 26, 2013

Status: As Passed by the House **Sponsor**: Rep. Roegner

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: To exempt certified hyperbaric technologists from the laws governing the practice of respiratory care

State Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill exempts certified hyperbaric technologists (CHTs) from the laws governing the practice of respiratory care. Under current law, only a respiratory care professional licensed by the Ohio Respiratory Care Board (ORCB) may administer hyperbaric oxygen therapy. The bill allows a CHT to provide hyperbaric oxygen therapy without a Board-issued license but requires the CHT be certified by the National Board of Diving & Hyperbaric Medical Technology (NBDHMT) and administer hyperbaric oxygen therapy under the direct supervision of a physician.

According to NBDHMT, the CHT designation is an additional professional certification. In order to obtain certification, an individual must meet certain requirements and must first be licensed or certified as any of the following professionals: (1) respiratory therapist, (2) physician assistant, (3) military corpsman, (4) an EMT or paramedic, (5) registered nurse or licensed practical nurse, (6) nurse practitioner, (7) physician, (8) certified nurse aide, and (9) certified medical assistant. According to NBDHMT, there are currently 73 CHTs in Ohio.

According to ORCB, CHTs are not currently licensed by the Board. Therefore, there should be no fiscal impact associated with this exemption.

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