Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: Sub. H.B. 165 of the 130th G.A. **Date**: March 28, 2014

Status: As Reported by Senate Commerce & Labor **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

- The Ohio Respiratory Care Board (ORCB) could incur a negligible increase in administrative costs for storing hyperbaric technologist certifications and for rule promulgation and realize a negligible gain in fee revenue for accepting and storing the hyperbaric technologist certifications.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill exempts certified hyperbaric technologists (CHTs), who have filed a copy of a current certification and have paid the associated fee, from the laws governing the practice of respiratory care. Under current law, only a respiratory care professional licensed by 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, a physician assistant, or an advanced practice registered nurse. The bill specifies that ORCB is required to adopt rules regarding procedures for accepting and storing copies of hyperbaric technologist certifications. In addition the bill specifies that ORCB is to establish a fee, not to exceed $20, for accepting and storing these certifications.

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 were currently 73 CHTs in Ohio as of June 2013.

According to ORCB, CHTs are not currently licensed by the Board. Therefore, there should be no fiscal impact associated with this exemption. However, ORCB could incur a negligible increase in administrative costs for storing hyperbaric technologist certifications and for rule promulgation and realize a negligible gain in fee revenue for storing these certifications.

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