Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Terry Steele

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: Am. S.B. 98 of the 130th G.A. **Date**: November 18, 2013

Status: As Reported by House Judiciary **Sponsor**: Sens. Obhof and Kearney

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Expands the list of entities that can serve as statutory agents

State and Local Fiscal Highlights

- The bill expands the list of eligible statutory agents in Ohio. As a result, there could be an increase in statutory agent change filings with the Secretary of State. The filing fee for such a change is $25, and is deposited in the Business Services Fund (Fund 5990).

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill modifies the law regarding statutory agents or designated agents who are responsible for receiving litigation documents and other legal notifications for various legally recognized businesses, trusts, partnerships, nonprofits, associations, and other such entities. Specifically, the bill requires that the agent for these entities be either (1) a natural person who is an Ohio resident, or (2) an entity with a business address in Ohio, or an entity that is qualified to operate in Ohio. The effect of the bill is to expand the list of entities that qualify as statutory agents. Overall, there appears to be no significant direct fiscal impact as a result of this change as it does not modify or change any of the business filing procedures required for these entities. However, it is possible that expanding the list of potential statutory agents could result in an increase in statutory agent change filings, for which the Secretary of State's Office charges a fee of $25. These filing fees are deposited in the Business Services Fund (Fund 5990).

SB0098HR.docx/jc