



# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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## Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

**Bill:** H.B. 65 of the 132nd G.A.

**Status:** As Reported by House State and Local Government

**Sponsor:** Rep. Hill

**Local Impact Statement Procedure Required:** No

**Subject:** Rules governing assessments of registered sanitarians and sanitarians-in-training who conduct inspections of retail food establishments and food service operations

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### State & Local Fiscal Highlights

- The Department of Agriculture and the Department of Health could incur some minimal costs to create and administer the written assessment for sanitarians and sanitarians-in-training.

### Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Under continuing law, a county board of health or other local entity issues licenses to food service operations, such as restaurants, and retail food establishments, such as grocery stores. As part of that responsibility, the entity inspects the licensees to determine compliance with food safety regulations. These inspections are conducted by registered sanitarians and sanitarians-in-training. At the state level, the Director of Health is responsible for evaluating the local food service operations licensure programs and the Director of Agriculture is responsible for evaluating the local retail food establishment licensure programs. At least once every three years, the directors are required to survey each local licensing entity to determine if the entity is qualified to administer and enforce food safety regulations.

The bill, as part of the survey process, requires the directors to evaluate whether an individual registered as a sanitarian or a sanitarian-in-training has sufficient knowledge to conduct inspections and carry out enforcement actions, via a written or electronic assessment. The assessment will be developed by the directors and the Ohio Environmental Health Association and the Association of Ohio Health Commissioners, not exceed 50 questions, and require at least an 80% score for passage. Sanitarians and sanitarians-in-training will be allowed to review the Ohio Uniform Food Safety Code during the assessment. The Department of Agriculture and the Department of Health could incur an administrative cost in order to develop and administer the assessment.