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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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Office

H.B. 151
133rd General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 151's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Carfagna

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- The bill requires the State Chiropractic Board to deposit \$25 of each biennial chiropractic physician license renewal fee in the Chiropractic Loan Repayment Fund, used by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), which is created by the bill. As a result, approximately \$62,500 is expected to be deposited each even-numbered year into this fund. However, the Board would realize a corresponding loss of renewal fee revenue deposited into the Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund (Fund 4K90) unless fees were adjusted in rule to account for this.
- ODH will experience an increase in costs to administer the Chiropractic Loan Repayment Program, to designate chiropractic health resource shortage areas, provide staff to the Chiropractic Loan Repayment Advisory Board, and to adopt rules.

Detailed Analysis

Chiropractic Loan Repayment Program

The bill creates the Chiropractic Loan Repayment Program within ODH. Under the program, ODH may repay all or part of an educational loan taken by a chiropractor in exchange for the chiropractor providing services in chiropractic health resource shortage areas, which the Director of ODH is required to designate. ODH is required to administer the program in cooperation with the Chiropractic Loan Repayment Advisory Board, which is created by the bill. ODH is required to provide staff to the Advisory Board as requested and adopt rules as necessary to implement and administer the program.

The bill outlines specifications for eligibility, repayment amounts, and applying for the program. Under the bill, no repayment may exceed \$10,000 in any year and the total repayment cannot exceed \$30,000. If a repayment amount results in an increase in a participating chiropractor's tax liability, the chiropractor may request reimbursement for the

increase. The bill specifies that, if a chiropractor fails to complete services during the first two years of the service obligation, the chiropractor must pay ODH three times the total repayment amount. For a failure to complete service after the first two years of the service obligation, the chiropractor must pay ODH three times any amount that still remains to be repaid by ODH. These damages must be paid to the credit of the Chiropractic Loan Repayment Fund.

The bill requires the State Chiropractic Board to deposit \$25 of each biennial chiropractic physician renewal fee and any damages from default into the Chiropractic Loan Repayment Fund, which is created by the bill. The bill also establishes the Chiropractic Health Resource Shortage Area Fund, in which all gifts accepted for the program must be deposited.

Fiscal impact

Currently, each chiropractor must pay a fee of \$500 to renew his or her license before the renewal deadline of March 31 of each even-numbered year. This fee is established in the Ohio Administrative Code. These fee revenues are currently deposited into the Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund (Fund 4K90), which is used by the State Chiropractic Board for its operations. In FY 2018, there were approximately 2,500 active chiropractic licenses in Ohio. The bill requires \$25 of each renewal fee to be deposited into the Chiropractic Loan Repayment Fund. As such, approximately \$62,500 would be deposited each even-numbered year into this fund rather than into Fund 4K90. As a result, revenues currently retained by the State Chiropractic Board will be decreased. However, the Board may increase the license renewal fee in rule.

ODH may experience an increase in costs to administer the Chiropractic Loan Repayment Program, to designate chiropractic health resource shortage areas, provide staff to the Chiropractic Loan Repayment Advisory Board, and to adopt rules.

Continuing education

The bill makes changes to the law governing the approval of continuing education activities. Rather than requiring that an activity meet the Board's approval as a continuing education activity, the bill requires the Board to enter into a contract with the Ohio State Chiropractic Association (OSCA) under which OSCA is responsible for activity approval. The Board must adopt rules establishing a procedure for OSCA to use in approving activities.

Fiscal impact

The Board will experience an increase in costs to contract with OSCA and to adopt rules.

Acupuncture certificates and annual meetings

The bill extends the length of time that an acupuncture certificate is valid from one year to two and requires the Board to establish a schedule for the biennial expiration of certificates. The bill authorizes the Board to take any action it considers necessary for the purpose of converting the certificates to a biennial schedule. The bill also eliminates the requirement that the Board hold an annual meeting in September of each year and requires elections for board president to be held at the first board meeting held in each odd-numbered year, rather than at every annual September meeting.

Fiscal impact

According to the State Chiropractic Board, the change to the acupuncture certificates is codifying current practice. Thus, there should be no impact associated with these provisions.