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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

H.B. 61  
133<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly

## Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 61's Bill Analysis](#)

**Version:** As Passed by the Senate

**Primary Sponsors:** Reps. Lanese and Liston

**Local Impact Statement Procedure Required:** No

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### Highlights

- The bill includes emergency service telecommunicators, forensic mental health providers, mental health evaluation providers, regional psychiatric hospital employees, and certain designated Ohio National Guard members to the list of professions whose information is exempted from disclosure under the Public Records Law. There would be some additional cost to political subdivisions associated with adding these professions.
- The bill prohibits the Governor or any other government employee or entity from issuing an order requiring individuals to participate in contact tracing. There does not appear to be any direct fiscal impact associated with this prohibition.

### Detailed Analysis

#### Exemptions under Public Records Law

Political subdivisions would incur some additional cost and administrative work for including emergency service telecommunicators, forensic mental health providers, mental health evaluation providers, regional psychiatric hospital employees, and certain designated Ohio National Guard members in the list of professions whose familial and residential information is exempted from disclosure under the Public Records Law. This is because political subdivisions currently have procedures in place for the removal or redaction of personal information for the designated public service workers covered under the existing exemption. However, the overall effect on local jurisdictions depends on the number of these professionals involved in situations where their familial and residential information would be excluded from public disclosure. Although the number of professionals working in these fields in Ohio and who are covered by the bill is unknown, there are ten facilities statewide that offer forensic evaluation services for Ohio courts, and six regional psychiatric hospitals operated by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services across Ohio. No data on the number of

emergency service telecommunicators or designated Ohio National Guard members who would be covered under the exemption in the bill are available as of this writing.

## **Contact tracing**

The bill prohibits the Governor from issuing an order that requires individuals to participate in contact tracing and also additionally prohibits the Department of Health, other state agencies, local boards of health, or any other government entity from requiring participation in contact tracing. The bill further prohibits any penalties, including the withholding of medical treatment, from being imposed on individuals who refuse to participate in contact tracing efforts. These contact tracing provisions do not appear to have a direct fiscal impact on the state or its political subdivisions.