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Office

S.B. 273
135th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for S.B. 273's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Reynolds

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- The bill appropriates \$10.0 million in FY 2025 in GRF line item 830414, Child Care Cred Program, under the Ohio Department of Children and Youth's (DCY) budget, to support the Child Care Cred Program.
- The DCY Director may also certify to the Director of Budget and Management (OBM) an additional amount necessary to fund the program if there are insufficient funds in FY 2025. The bill appropriates any amounts certified.
- If any state or local public employer chooses to participate in the program, the employer would realize costs. Costs would depend on the number of participating employees and children and the cost of child care provided.

Detailed Analysis

Child Care Cred Program

The bill creates the Child Care Cred Program in the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY). Under the program, the costs of child care may be shared equally by eligible employees, participating employers, and, subject to available funds, DCY. However, an employer may agree to also contribute some or all of the employee's share. The bill establishes certain conditions on program participation and requires a child care provider under the program to hold a child care center or family child care home license issued by the state or be certified as an in-home aide by a county department of job and family services. An employee and employer must together submit an application to DCY in a manner prescribed by the Department. DCY must review each application and determine if both are eligible to participate.

After DCY determines an employee and employer are both eligible and each agrees to participate, the bill requires the employee to select a child care provider, with DCY's assistance, and requires the employee to enroll the child with the selected provider. DCY may require the employee, employer, and child care provider to each sign a memorandum of understanding with the Department. DCY is responsible for coordinating and performing all administrative activities associated with the sharing of child care costs and making payments to child care providers. However, DCY may delegate the performance of some or all of the activities to one or more third-party entities. DCY must specify the conditions that an entity must satisfy before the Department delegates performance of the activities to the entity. The bill authorizes DCY to adopt rules as necessary to implement the bill's provisions.

Fiscal impact

The bill appropriates \$10.0 million in FY 2025 in GRF line item 830414, Child Care Cred Program, under DCY's budget to support the program. Additionally, if DCY determines that there are insufficient funds in FY 2025 for the program, the DCY Director may certify to the OBM Director the additional amount necessary. The bill also appropriates the amount certified in this circumstance. If any state or local public employer chooses to participate in the program, the employer would realize costs. The costs would depend on the number of participating employees and children and the cost of child care provided.