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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
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Office

S.B. 211
135th General Assembly

Final Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for S.B. 211's Bill Analysis](#)

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Roegner

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- The State Medical Board of Ohio will experience costs to participate in the Dietitian Licensure Compact, including costs to process applications for Compact privilege, investigate complaints, provide required information, and possibly to pay an annual assessment. However, the Board may realize revenues for any application fees collected. The total costs, as well as the amount of revenues received, will depend on the number of dietitians seeking the Compact privilege.
- 9-8-8 suicide and crisis response activities are added to the powers and duties of the Director of Mental Health and Addiction Services. The 9-8-8 Fund is also created in the state treasury and will consist of money from various sources including General Assembly appropriations.

Detailed Analysis

Dietitian Licensure Compact

The bill enters Ohio as a party to the Dietitian Licensure Compact. As a member of the Compact, Ohio must allow a dietitian licensed in another member state to practice in Ohio, subject to Ohio's laws and rules governing the practice of dietetics. The Compact provides that a home state has the exclusive power to impose adverse action against a license it issues, including a single-state license or a licensee who has Compact privilege. Adverse actions can be administrative, civil, equitable, or criminal actions permitted by a member state's laws. While states that are not the home state cannot impose adverse action against the licensee, a member state may investigate violations and take adverse action against a licensee's Compact privilege in that member state. As a result, the State Medical Board of Ohio may receive complaints regarding out-of-state practitioners with Compact privilege, which may result in costs for investigations and disciplinary action. If there are any criminal actions taken, there could be court costs. Additionally, the Board will be required to submit specified information to the Compact

Commission on all dietitians to whom the Compact is applicable. There will also be administrative costs to submit this information, to promulgate any rules, process applications for Compact privilege, and possibly to make updates to information technology systems or the Board's website. However, participating states may impose fees for granting the Compact privilege, which may help offset some costs. Costs, and the amount of revenue received, will depend on the number of dietitians seeking Compact privilege.

The Compact Commission is permitted to impose annual assessments on participating states and fees on licensees, as well as accept donations and grants. Additionally, the Board will be required to select one delegate to serve on the Compact Commission. These provisions could also result in costs to the Board. However, meetings may take place by telecommunication, video conference, or other similar electronic means. Thus, this could reduce participating costs.

The Compact becomes effective when seven states enact it into law.

9-8-8 Hotline

The bill establishes a 9-8-8 Administrator within the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) to oversee the administration of the 9-8-8 Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Crisis Hotline System (9-8-8 Hotline) statewide. The 9-8-8 Administrator is required to submit an annual report with certain information to the General Assembly and the Governor. The bill also creates the 9-8-8 Fund, consisting of money from General Assembly appropriations, gifts, grants, and bequests, and interest earned on fund amounts. The fund must be used to oversee and administer the 9-8-8 Hotline. The 9-8-8 Hotline was launched on July 16, 2022. OhioMHAS currently has a 9-8-8 Administrator and reports some 9-8-8-related information. To the extent that this provision is codifying current practice, the provision would not result in fiscal costs.¹

Further, the bill exempts certain companies and affiliated individuals and entities from liability in a civil action for damages resulting from the companies' or affiliates' acts or omissions in connection with the 9-8-8 Hotline. This provision could result in fewer potential civil cases.

¹ H.B. 33 of the 135th General Assembly appropriated \$20.7 million in FY 2024 and \$25.8 million in FY 2025 in Fund 5AA1 line item 336661, 988 Suicide and Crisis Response, for operations and activities of the 9-8-8 Hotline. The funds to support these appropriations came from a GRF transfer into Fund 5AA1.