



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Jacquelyn Schroeder

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: H.B. 294 of the 131st G.A. (LSC 131 1874-1) **Date:** November 16, 2015
Status: In House Community and Family Advancement **Sponsor:** Reps. Patmon and Conditt

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Requires the Ohio Department of Health to ensure that state funds and certain federal funds are not used either to perform or promote nontherapeutic abortions, or to contract or affiliate with any entity that performs or promotes nontherapeutic abortions

State Fiscal Highlights

- Restricting the use of certain funds administered by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) would not affect the total amount of funds available for distribution; however, it would impact the entities that could receive them. Any funds that would have been provided by ODH to entities that perform or promote nontherapeutic abortions would be awarded to other entities that apply.
- ODH may incur additional oversight costs when reviewing applications to ensure the funds are not going to the prohibited organizations. However, these costs should be minimal.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill requires the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) to ensure that certain funds are not used either to perform or promote nontherapeutic abortions, or to contract or affiliate with any entity that performs or promotes nontherapeutic abortions.

The bill's limitations apply to the following federal programs: (1) the Violence Against Women Act, for grants for the purpose of education and prevention of violence against women, (2) the Breast and Cervical Cancer Mortality Prevention Act, for a program to provide breast and cervical cancer screening and diagnostic testing and all federal and state funds that it uses to operate the program, (3) the Infertility Prevention Project, (4) the Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative, for grants and all other federal and state funds that are part of the grants distributed under this initiative, and (5) the Personal Responsibility Education Program, for all funds and grants to educate adolescents on abstinence and contraception for the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections. The bill requires ODH to ensure that all materials it receives through the Infertility Prevention Project are not distributed to entities that perform or promote nontherapeutic abortions. The bill also requires ODH ensure that all state funds it receives, including funding for infant mortality reduction or infant vitality initiatives, are subject to the bill's limitations.

Fiscal effect

Restricting the use of the funds above would not affect the total amount of funds available for distribution; however, it would impact the entities that could receive them. Any funds that would have been provided by ODH to entities that perform or promote nontherapeutic abortions would be awarded to other entities that apply. ODH may incur additional oversight costs when reviewing applications to ensure the funds are not going to the prohibited organizations. However, these costs should be minimal.

Synopsis of Fiscal Effect Changes

The substitute bill (LSC 131 1874-1) applies the same funding limitations listed above to all funds and grants distributed under the Personal Responsibility Education Program. Thus, any funds for this program that would have been provided by ODH to entities that perform or promote nontherapeutic abortions would be awarded to other entities that apply. Additionally, ODH may incur minimal oversight costs when reviewing applications to ensure these funds are not going to the prohibited organizations. The substitute bill also changes the term "elective" abortion to "nontherapeutic" abortion and defines the word "promote." These changes should have no fiscal effect.