OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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Office of Research
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Legislative Budget
Office

H.B. 67
(l_133_0512-2)
133rd General Assembly

Fiscal Note &
Local Impact Statement

Click here for H.B. 67's Bill Analysis

Version: In House Commerce and Labor

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Brinkman and Kelly

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- The bill establishes the Veterinary Student Debt Assistance Program and provides student loan forgiveness payments to eligible applicants in amounts between $5,000 and $10,000.

- The bill creates the Veterinary Student Debt Assistance Fund which will consist of registration and license revenues in excess of appropriated amounts collected by the Veterinary Medical Licensing Board. These revenues were previously deposited into the Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund (Fund 4K90). Given trends over the three prior renewal cycles, the Board would have approximately $185,000 per fiscal year to support the program.

Detailed Analysis

Veterinary Student Debt Assistance Program

The bill creates the Veterinary Student Debt Assistance Program, which allows the Veterinarian Medical Licensing Board, by means of a contract, to agree to repay all or part of any educational loans taken out by a veterinarian while in college if the individual meets the criteria established in the bill (see the LSC bill analysis). The Board may select eligible individuals for the program through a lottery system developed by rule. Once selected, the individual must perform charitable veterinary services and remain in Ohio for a length of time determined by the Board. Each eligible individual may receive loan forgiveness in an amount between $5,000 and $10,000.

Funding

The bill establishes the Veterinary Student Debt Assistance Fund. The fund is required to be used by the Board to make loan repayments of veterinarians in the program. The fund

consists of moneys received for issuing veterinarian licenses and registrations. These revenues are typically deposited into the Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund (Fund 4K90). However, the bill specifies that the fund shall consist of the amount of revenues collected from license and registration fees minus those appropriations made to the Board for operating purposes. The table below shows the revenue and expenditure history through the previous three license renewal cycles.

Revenues and Expenditures, FY 2014-FY 2019						
	FY 2014	**FY 2015**	**FY 2016**	**FY 2017**	**FY 2018**	**FY 2019**
Revenue	$752,140	$264,858	$750,515	$266,473	$800,903	$329,150
Expenses	$343,441	$292,244	$343,915	$343,966	$376,807	$366,745
Net	$408,669	-$27,386	$406,600	-$77,493	$424,096	-$37,595

Given the trends in these license cycles, and the funding mechanism language for the Veterinary Student Debt Assistance Fund in the bill, the Board would have approximately $185,000 available for debt relief per fiscal year, as the Board will use the amount of excess revenue during the renewal cycle evenly over the biennium.

Synopsis of Fiscal Effect Changes

The substitute version of the bill (l_133_0512-2) removes all provisions related to educational credits for spay and neutering services and instead establishes the Veterinary Student Debt Assistance Program. The program would allow eligible students to receive student loan forgiveness in an amount between $5,000 and $10,000, as determined by the Board.

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