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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
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Office

S.B. 100
134th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

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Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Manning

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Ryan Sherrock, Economist, and other LBO staff

Highlights

- The bill appropriates \$3.57 million in each of FY 2022 and FY 2023 from the GRF to fund a \$70,000 grant to each educational service center to support the employment of a licensed independent social worker.
- The bill allows mental health professionals to provide crisis assessments of minors without the consent or knowledge of the minor's parent, legal guardian, or custodian in specified situations. If any government entities provide these crisis assessments, their costs might increase depending on the number of assessments conducted.
- The bill requires the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services to adopt certain rules, which would result in a minimal increase in rule promulgation costs.

Detailed Analysis

Department of Education

The bill appropriates \$3.57 million in each of FY 2022 and FY 2023 in GRF line item 200550, Foundation Funding, in the Ohio Department of Education budget, to fund a \$70,000 grant to each educational service center (ESC) to support the employment of a licensed independent social worker who may coordinate policy implementation and other services. There are 51 ESCs across the state, serving approximately 1.5 million students. For the 2019-2020 school year, ESCs reported employing approximately 105 full-time equivalent (FTE) social workers with an average salary of about \$41,600. The major additional payroll costs associated with a public employee are for providing benefits such as retirement and health insurance. Assuming that fringe benefits costs amount to about 40% of salary, the total average payroll costs for an ESC social worker position would be about \$58,000. There may also be equipment, supplies, and other ancillary costs associated with these positions.

Crisis assessments without parental consent

The bill allows mental health professionals to provide crisis assessments of minors without parental consent if both of the following are the case: (1) the mental health professional believes, or has received credible information from an adult supervising the minor, that the minor is suicidal or poses a risk of physical harm to others, and (2) the minor's parent, legal guardian, or custodian is not available to provide consent. However, the bill specifies that as soon as practical after the crisis assessment, the professional must make a good faith effort to notify the parent, guardian, or custodian that the assessment was provided. If any government entities provided these crisis assessments, their costs might increase depending on the number conducted. If this occurred and any insurance reimbursements were sought and received, some costs could be offset.

Additionally, the bill requires the Director of Mental Health and Addiction Services to adopt rules identifying the types of mental health professionals who are permitted to provide outpatient mental health services and crisis assessments to minors 14 years of age and older. The process of adopting these rules could result in minimal, one-time administrative costs.