



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Genevieve Davison

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: S.B. 33 of the 131st G.A.

Date: February 24, 2015

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor: Sen. Tavares

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Requires certain health care professionals to complete instruction in cultural competency

State Fiscal Highlights

- Potential minimal increase in administrative costs for the State Dental Board, the Board of Nursing, the State Board of Optometry, the State Board of Pharmacy, the State Medical Board, the State Board of Psychology, and the Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board to adopt rules regarding instruction and continuing education in cultural competency, approve courses, and ensure that licensees have completed required instruction or continuing education.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

This bill creates a requirement for dentists, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, optometrists, pharmacists, physicians, psychologists, independent social workers, social workers, and social work assistants to complete instruction or continuing education in cultural competency in order to receive an initial license or renew an existing license.

The state boards responsible for overseeing these health care professionals include the State Dental Board, the Board of Nursing, the State Board of Optometry, the State Board of Pharmacy, the State Medical Board, the State Board of Psychology, and the Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board. The bill requires these boards adopt rules to determine the number of hours of instruction or continuing education in cultural competency required for licensure and to approve one or more courses in cultural competency. It also requires boards to establish criteria for granting an applicant or health care professional a waiver of the requirement to complete instruction or continuing education in cultural competency. In adopting these rules, this bill requires boards to consider the problems of race and gender-based disparities in health care treatment and consult with one or more professionally relevant organizations. In addition to these requirements, boards are responsible for ensuring that licensees complete required courses. Overall, the requirements outlined in this bill might lead to minimal increases in administrative costs for the aforementioned state regulatory boards.