



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Maggie Wolniewicz

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: H.B. 195 of the 132nd G.A.

Status: As Reported by House Transportation and Public Safety

Sponsor: Reps. Ingram and Seitz

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Subject: Nonemergency transportation for wheelchair or other mobility aid users

State & Local Fiscal Highlights

- The Department of Public Safety may experience an annual revenue loss of up to \$6,500 in licensing fees if currently licensed services that operate as an ambulette/taxi service choose to instead operate as vehicles for hire.
- The bill has no direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill exempts taxicabs and other similar vehicles for hire, as well as vehicles owned or operated by a transportation network company or driver, from ambulette licensure requirements, thereby allowing such vehicles to transport individuals who require the use of a wheelchair or other mobility aid in nonemergency circumstances.

There are currently 15 licensed ambulette/taxi services, with a total of 50 vehicles, which would be exempt from licensing requirements under the bill. Each licensed service is required to pay a fee of \$100, plus \$100 for each vehicle that the service operates. If all of these licensed services choose to operate as vehicles for hire instead of as ambulettes, the Department of Public Safety would experience an annual revenue loss of \$6,500 (\$1,500 for the 15 licensed services + \$5,000 for 50 vehicles).

The ambulette licensing fees noted above are credited to the Trauma and Emergency Medical Services Fund (Fund 83M0), which consists of money from seat belt law violations, 5% of bail forfeitures resulting from arrests by the Ohio State Highway Patrol, \$20 of the OVI reinstatement fee, and medical transportation licensing fees. The amount of revenue credited to Fund 83M0 annually runs around \$6.5 million. It is appropriated for use by the Department of Public Safety: (1) to pay administrative expenses of the Division of Emergency Medical Services and the State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services, and (2) to provide training and equipment grants to local emergency medical services organizations and to improve and enhance EMS and trauma patient care in Ohio.