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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

H.B. 177
133rd General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 177's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Brinkman

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- The Board of Nursing may realize an increase in administrative or investigative costs as a result of the bill removing requirements for standard care arrangements and collaborating physicians for some advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs).
- School districts may be able to reduce costs if the bill makes it easier to use APRNs, or other health care professionals, to assess athletes showing signs of a concussion.

Detailed Analysis

Advanced practice registered nurses

The bill eliminates the requirement that an APRN, who is a certified nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, or certified nurse-midwife, practice with a standard care arrangement with a collaborating physician or podiatrist. It is possible government-owned hospitals may experience a minimal savings if these arrangements are no longer necessary; any savings will likely be minimal. However, it is possible that the Board of Nursing may realize an increase in investigative costs if there are any additional complaints as a result; any increase in complaints is expected to be minimal at best. At the end of FY 2018, the Board of Nursing reported 14,349 active licenses that would be affected by the bill, including 12,817 certified nurse practitioners, 1,130 clinical nurse specialists, and 402 certified nurse-midwives.¹

¹ Ohio Board of Nursing. Annual Report SFY 2018. <http://www.nursing.ohio.gov/PDFS/AnnualReport/AnnualReportFY18.pdf>.

Youth concussion assessments

Continuing law requires students or individuals that show symptoms consistent with a concussion sustained while playing for an athletic event through a school district or youth sports organization to be removed until the player has been assessed and cleared by an approved health care professional. While current law allows professionals other than a physician to review and clear players under certain conditions, the bill allows any health care professional authorized by the school district or organization to do so. This change may result in a cost savings for school districts if it makes it easier to use other health care professionals (which likely cost less than physicians) to evaluate concussions at sporting events.

Other provisions

Current law requires an applicant for a license of certified nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, or certified nurse-midwife to show evidence of completing a course in advanced pharmacology approved by the Board. The bill no longer requires the course to be Board approved.

The bill also prohibits physicians from issuing prescriptions for a schedule II controlled substance from a convenience care clinic. Continuing law prevents APRNs from doing the same. This provision will pose no direct cost to the state or political subdivisions.