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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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H.B. 73
135th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 73's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Gross and Loychik

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- Occupational licensing boards could realize some savings related to disciplinary actions if less cases are investigated as a result of the bill's provisions.

Detailed Analysis

The bill authorizes a prescriber to prescribe an off-label drug and generally requires a pharmacist to dispense the drug, including when a patient has not been tested or screened for or exposed to a particular disease, illness, or infection. The bill also prohibits the following: (1) a licensing board from pursuing a disciplinary action against a prescriber who prescribes the off-label drug or a pharmacist who dispenses it, (2) disciplinary action against a licensed health care professional for expressing a medical opinion that does not align with those of the licensing board, a local board of health, or the Ohio Department of Health, (3) a political subdivision, public official, or state agency from enforcing any rule or order issued by a federal agency that prohibits the use of an off-label drug, and (4) a hospital from denying nutrition or fluids to a patient who has refused a hospital's treatment intervention or standard protocol and generally prohibits the hospital from denying the patient's standard daily medications. A health care provider can already prescribe off-label medications, so there should not be any direct impacts to the state or to local health plans. Occupational licensing boards, including the State Medical Board, Ohio Board of Nursing, State Dental Board, State Vision Professionals Board, and the State Board of Pharmacy, could realize some savings related to disciplinary actions if less cases are investigated as a result of the bill's provisions.