OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

www.lsc.ohio.gov

Office of Research and Drafting

Legislative Budget Office

H.B. 530
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Click here for H.B. 530's Fiscal Note

Version: As Passed by the House

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Brewer and Salvo

Amy L. Archer, Research Analyst

SUMMARY

- Establishes the Long-term Care Workforce Study Commission to study the direct care and long-term care workforce in Ohio and make policy recommendations.
- Requires the Commission, by October 31, 2027, to issue a report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly, at which time the Commission will cease to exist.
- Establishes the Commission's membership, meeting, and other administrative requirements.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Long-term Care Workforce Study Commission

Establishment and duties

The bill establishes the legislative Long-term Care Workforce Study Commission. The Commission must study the direct care and long-term care workforce in Ohio and make policy recommendations in each of the following areas:

- Measuring current demand for direct care workers and projecting future needs of that workforce, including evaluating available workforce data and identifying gaps in data collection related to workforce supply, vacancy rates, turnover rates, and projected workforce demands;
- Developing a campaign and statewide recruitment strategies to encourage people to join the facility-based and home and community-based long-term care workforce;
- Supporting career ladders throughout various long-term care settings;

- Identifying educational needs and methods to fill those needs for direct care workers, including establishing a program to provide contributions to the postsecondary education of long-term care direct care workers in related fields;
- Identifying barriers to hiring direct care workers and methods to overcome those barriers;
- Developing strategies to improve the quality of long-term care jobs;
- Increasing opportunities for shared staffing among long-term care providers;
- Making recommendations on potential funding mechanisms and the feasibility of pilot programs regarding the direct care workforce, such as pooling hours worked by part-time home care workers with the purpose of providing greater employment opportunity and access to employee benefits; expanding access to postsecondary education in relevant fields for direct care workers; and evaluating potential pilot initiatives related to workforce recruitment, training pipeline partnerships with career centers and postsecondary institutions, workforce navigator programs, shared staffing models among providers, and the use of assistive technology to support caregivers and individuals receiving services. Recommendations regarding funding mechanisms or pilot initiatives are to be advisory in nature and cannot require the appropriation of state funds.[1]

In carrying out its duties, the Commission must review the findings and considerations of the Direct Care Workforce Expansion Working Group, an initiative established to advance the conversation about labor shortages in direct care professions. (See the Direct Care Expansion Working Group's Final Report (PDF).) General Assembly staff will provide technical and administrative support as needed by the Commission.

The Commission must, no later than October 31, 2027, issue a report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly. In producing the report, the Commission must hear testimony from interested parties and members of the public. On completion of the report, the Commission must present its findings and recommendations to the relevant General Assembly committees. It also must transmit the report to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Senate President.

On submission of its report, the Commission will cease to exist.[2]

Membership and meetings

The Commission must consist of 15 appointed voting members:

- Six members of the General Assembly, as follows:
  - Three members of the Senate, two from the majority party, appointed by the Senate President, and one from the minority party, appointed by the President in consultation with the Senate Minority Leader;

[1] Section 1(A)(1).

[2] Section 1(A)(2), (D), and (E).

- Three members of the House of Representatives, two from the majority party, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and one from the minority party, appointed by the Speaker in consultation with the House Minority Leader.

- Five members who possess expertise in long-term care workforce issues, appointed by the Senate President, as follows:
  - A representative of a statewide association representing direct care workers;
  - A representative of a statewide association representing providers of home and community-based long-term care services (HCBS);
  - A representative of a statewide association representing facility based long-term care providers;
  - A representative of a statewide association representing nonprofit housing and senior service programming;
  - A consumer participating in a home and community-based services waiver administered by the Department of Medicaid.
- Four members who possess expertise in long-term care workforce issues, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, as follows:
  - A representative of a statewide organization providing services to individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability;
  - A representative of a statewide organization representing service coordination agencies serving individuals receiving HCBS;
  - A representative of a statewide association representing long-term care services and support providers for seniors, including facility-based and HCBS providers;
  - A representative of a statewide organization representing consumers participating in HCBS.

Additionally, the following serve as nonvoting members:

- The Director of Aging, or the Director's designee;
- The Director of Developmental Disabilities, or the Director's designee;
- The Director of Veterans Services, or the Director's designee.[3]

Commission members must be appointed no later than 30 days after the bill's effective date. A vacancy must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. Members serve without compensation.

The Senate President and the Speaker of the House will each appoint one majority member to serve as Commission co-chairpersons. The Commission must meet no fewer than six

[3] Section 1(B).

times prior to submitting its report and may meet more frequently as determined necessary by the co-chairpersons. The Commission must hold its first meeting no later than 30 days after a majority of members have been appointed.[4]

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	10-21-25
Reported, H. Workforce & Higher Education	06-09-26
Passed House (89-3)	11-10-26

ANHB0530PH-136/ar

[4] Section 1(C).