OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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Office of Research and Drafting

Legislative Budget Office

S.B. 324
136th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Click here for S.B. 324's Bill Analysis

Version: As Passed by the Senate

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Huffman

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Jacquelyn Schroeder, Senior Budget Analyst

Highlights

- The Ohio Department of Health could realize a loss of revenue in their General Operations Fund (Fund 4700) related to the bill's licensure exemptions. However, it is unlikely that many nurse practitioners and physician assistants also currently hold general x-ray machine operator or other radiation technician licenses. Thus, any potential revenue loss is likely negligible.

Detailed Analysis

The bill makes changes to the law governing x-ray machine operators licensed by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). The bill exempts the following from the law prohibiting practice as a general x-ray machine operator, radiographer, radiation therapy technologist, or nuclear medicine technologist without holding an ODH-issued license to practice: (1) certified nurse practitioners, (2) physician assistants, and (3) nursing and physician assistant students engaging in activities performed by basic x-ray machine operators, radiographers, radiation therapy technologists, and nuclear medicine technologists as an integral part of a program of study leading to receipt of a license. ODH could realize a loss of revenue in their General Operations Fund (Fund 4700) related to the licensure exemptions. However, it is unlikely that many nurse practitioners or physician assistants also currently hold an x-ray machine operator or other radiation technician license. Thus, any potential revenue loss is likely negligible. Each initial license fee is $65 and each biennial renewal fee is $45. These fees are deposited in ODH's General Operations Fund (Fund 4700). The bill also authorizes a general x-ray machine operator to perform radiologic procedures under the direct supervision of a certified nurse practitioner or physician assistant. Currently, a physician, podiatrist, mechanotherapist, or chiropractor is required to provide direct supervision. As a result, if the bill's provisions result in any complaints, ODH or other impacted licensing boards may realize investigative costs. There could be impacts

to government programs that provide for these services if the provision led to an increase in utilization or if individuals were able to access services sooner or in a less expensive setting.

The bill also establishes an additional exception to the requirement that an applicant for a general x-ray machine operator license pass the licensing examination administered by ODH or an entity under contract with ODH: that the applicant has successfully passed the anatomy modules examination offered by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists for the applicant's intended practice area. ODH contracts with an entity to administer the state examination; thus, the $140 examination fee is collected by the contracted entity. As a result, the bill will not result in any loss of revenue related to examinations in Fund 4700.

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