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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
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Office

H.B. 83
134th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 83's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Russo and Manchester

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- Child support enforcement agencies will experience an increase in costs to process the additional orders. This will primarily impact those counties that are not currently able to redirect orders to nonparent caregivers. However, some counties that do this only in certain cases would also be impacted. The total costs will depend on a number of factors including the number of cases and the scope of the casework required.
- Local courts could realize an increase in cases to redirect child support for orders issued by a court or to hear objections or challenges. This could increase court costs; however, some court fees could be collected.

Detailed Analysis

The bill makes changes to child support law to allow child support amounts under existing child support orders to be redirected, and new child support orders to be issued, to a nonparent caretaker who is the primary caregiver of a child. According to the Ohio Child Support Enforcement Agency Directors' Association (OCDA), the bill's provisions do not substantially change any of the processes carried out by child support enforcement agencies (CSEAs). Some counties can currently redirect orders to caretakers. According to OCDA, up to 20% of a county's caseload may be caretakers. The bill would permit the remaining CSEAs to redirect payments. According to OCDA, about half of the counties do not currently redirect payments to caretakers. This would increase the casework for these counties and possibly even for some counties that allow redirection if they do so only for certain cases, such as those for which an individual is receiving public assistance. There could be a large initial increase in casework to redirect current cases. This could result in increased administrative costs, the amount of which would depend on the number of cases and the scope of the casework involved. This provision could also result in increased court costs. For instance, some child support orders are court ordered. If this is the

case a CSEA would need to recommend to a court with jurisdiction that a redirection be issued. There could also be court costs for any challenges or objections. Additionally, the provisions establishing parentage and bringing a child support action clarify that caretakers hold these rights. This could increase CSEA casework and potentially court cases depending on the number of actions brought forward.

The bill would allow caretakers to file an application for Title IV-D services with a CSEA. According to OCDA, parents currently file these applications as standard procedure. This would allow those counties not currently redirecting orders to caretakers to file an application for these individuals. If a caretaker was Title IV-D eligible, federal reimbursements could be received.

The Director of the Department of Job and Family Services is permitted to adopt rules as necessary to carry out the bill, which could pose an administrative cost if needed.