



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Nicholas J. Blaine

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: H.B. 340 of the 132nd G.A.

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor: Rep. Young

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Subject: Information releases for public assistance recipients

State Fiscal Highlights

- The Ohio departments of Job and Family Services and Medicaid may experience costs to make any required information technology upgrades to implement the bill.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- County departments of job and family services and public children services agencies may experience administrative costs to train workers on new information-sharing requirements and how to use the systems newly available to them.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill makes several changes to state laws pertaining to the disclosure of information about applicants for, and recipients of, public and medical assistance programs. First, the bill requires the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS), Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM), county departments of job and family services (CDJFS), public children services agencies (PCSA), and Medicaid managed care organizations to release information about assistance recipients to entities administering assistance programs. Under current law, ODJFS, ODM, CDJFSs, and PCSAs may release this information in certain circumstances (e.g., ODJFS can provide an address of a public assistance recipient to a CDJFS to help complete an application). In addition to requiring this information sharing, Medicaid managed care organizations are also required to share and receive information about public assistance applicants. Current law does not allow for this information to be shared between medical assistance programs and other assistance programs.

The bill further requires information about public assistance applicants and recipients to be disclosed to government entities administering medical assistance programs, while also requiring that information about medical assistance applicants and recipients be shared with government entities administering public assistance programs.

This sharing of information may pose a cost to ODJFS and ODM. The cost will depend on what information technology upgrades (e.g., providing access to additional individuals or security enhancements) were required to existing computer systems to facilitate this sharing. These existing systems include Ohio Benefits, the Client Registry Information System – Enhanced (CRIS-E), and the Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS), among others. Additionally, CDJFSs and PCSAs may experience an increase in costs in order to train workers to utilize systems they may be unfamiliar with and to comply with the new information-sharing requirements of the bill.

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