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S.B. 198 135th General Assembly	**Fiscal Note &** **Local Impact Statement**
	Click here for S.B. 198's Bill Analysis

Version: As Passed by the Senate

Primary Sponsors: Sens. Lang and Manning

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- The bill's impact on the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC) and the Department of Youth Services (DYS) to assist individuals in their custody in obtaining a state identification (ID) card and on DRC to fulfill employment documentation requirements is expected to be minimal.

- The Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) may incur negligible additional costs to create a process by which DRC and DYS may submit the state ID applications and to issue any additional state ID cards to the extent that current application volume is impacted by the bill.

- The bill has no direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.

Detailed Analysis

The bill eliminates the existing identification (ID) cards provided by the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC) and the Department of Youth Services (DYS) that are used by individuals in their custody to later obtain a state ID card or temporary ID card from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV), and instead requires DRC and DYS to assist those individuals in obtaining an ID card directly from the BMV. The bill further requires DRC, with limited exceptions, to provide every individual released who intends to reside in Ohio after serving a felony prison term with certain documentation to assist in obtaining post-release employment, and to provide assistance in creating a resume and conducting a practice job interview in certain circumstances, if resources are available or if third parties can assist with those services at no cost to DRC. The bill also permits DRC to contract with government or nonprofit workforce development reentry reorganizations to provide resume and practice interview services.

The bill delays the administrative implementation of the ID card requirements by 18 months.

Fiscal effect

The bill may result in negligible costs for the BMV to create a process by which DRC and DYS may submit applications for state ID cards and to issue such cards at no cost for individuals under age 17. Since state identification cards are already provided at no cost to Ohio residents age 17 and older, this analysis presumes a relatively cost neutral impact for this population. The BMV currently produces state ID cards at a cost of $1.47 per card.[1] Based on an analysis of data from various DYS and DRC annual reports, it seems reasonable to conclude that less than 100 additional individuals would qualify for a free state ID annually.[2]

The impact of the bill's changes to the way DRC and DYS provide assistance to individuals in their custody in obtaining a state ID card and the additional employment-related documents and post-release employment documentation requirements placed on DRC is likely to be minimal, with any potential increase in workload or related costs that may be incurred by either department expected to be absorbed utilizing existing resources. DRC's Office of Workforce Development would likely need to modify current procedures to conform to the bill's requirements, some of which may be codifying current practice.

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[1] This amount, as of February 26, 2023, includes production costs of $1.41 per card, plus 6¢ in handling charges. It should be noted that the BMV's contract with the current credential production vendor is nearing its end and these amounts are expected to increase under a new contract.

[2] This estimate is based on information obtained from (1) the FY 2019-FY 2023 DYS Annual Reports, which are available on the DYS website: dys.ohio.gov/about-us/communications/reports/01-annual-reports-all, and (2) from the FY 2019-FY 2023 DRC Commitment Reports, which are available on the DRC website: drc.ohio.gov/about/resource/reports.