Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: S.B. 110 of the 131st G.A.  Date: March 17, 2015  Status: As Introduced  Sponsor: Sen. Burke

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: To authorize administration of certain drugs pursuant to delegation by an advanced practice registered nurse who holds a certificate to prescribe and to revise the law governing billing for anatomic pathology services performed on dermatology specimens

State Fiscal Highlights

- Minimal increase in costs for the Ohio Board of Nursing and the State Medical Board.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Drug administration

This bill permits an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) to delegate to a person not otherwise authorized to administer drugs the authority to administer a drug to a specified patient if certain conditions are met. The APRN must be a clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner and hold a certificate to prescribe issued by the Ohio Board of Nursing. The bill requires the Board to establish standards and procedures for delegation of the authority to administer drugs.

Under current law, registered nurses and licensed practical nurses may delegate the authority to administer drugs in limited circumstances. These include: (1) delegating to medication aides employed in nursing homes or residential care facilities the authority to administer prescription drugs to residents and (2) delegating to personnel providing certain services to individuals with developmental disabilities the authority to administer oral and topical medications and insulin in specified locations.
The bill would likely result in a minimal increase in costs to the Ohio Board of Nursing. These costs could result from handling increases in complaints, conducting investigations, and taking disciplinary action. There would also be costs for the Board to adopt rules and to establish standards and procedures, as directed under the bill. Any increase in costs will be absorbed within the Board’s existing resources.

Anatomic pathology services

This bill repeals a provision that permits a physician, under certain circumstances, to bill for having an anatomic pathology service performed on a dermatology specimen despite the general prohibition on physicians billing for anatomic pathology services they did not perform or supervise. Under this bill, the prohibition on physicians billing for anatomic pathology services not personally performed or supervised, would apply to all specimen types.

The State Medical Board is authorized to take disciplinary action against a physician who violates the provisions of the bill. Under current law, the State Medical Board does not have the authority to take action directly related to billing. Presently, the Board generally directs individuals with billing disputes to the professional associations, the Department of Insurance, the Department of Medicaid if the dispute involves Medicaid billing, or the provider in question. However, if violations occur, there may be a minimal increase in administrative costs to the Board associated with taking disciplinary action. Any increase in costs will be absorbed within the Board’s existing resources.