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Office of Research and Drafting

Legislative Budget Office

S.B. 218
136th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

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Version: As Reported by Senate Armed Services, Veterans and Public Safety

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Roegner

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- The Department of Children and Youth (DCY) would realize a minimal decrease in costs to regulate U.S. military-certified family child care providers due to the bill's exemption.

Detailed Analysis

The bill exempts a family child care provider certified by any branch of the U.S. armed forces, including the U.S. Coast Guard, from the law governing the regulation of child care providers, including the requirement that certain family child care homes be licensed by the Department of Children and Youth (DCY) in order to operate in Ohio. DCY and county departments of job and family services oversee the licensing and inspection of child care settings, including family child care homes. According to DCY's FY 2024 Child Care Licensing Annual Report, family child care providers receive at least two annual inspections, one of which is unannounced.[1] As a result of this exemption, there would be a decrease in costs associated with regulating these providers. Additionally, in order to become a licensed family child care provider in Ohio, applicants are required to complete an application online through the Ohio Child Licensing and Quality System and submit a one-time, nonrefundable fee of $25. Providers that become a military-certified provider after the bill's effective date would not be required to pay this fee. There are currently ten providers in Ohio that are military-certified.

U.S. military-certified family child care providers are required to complete (1) criminal background checks for the applicant and all residents in the home over 18 years old, (2) a health screening and proof of immunizations for the provider and residents, (3) home inspections for

[1] DCY's FY 2024 Child Care Licensing Annual Report (PDF) is available by conducting a keyword "data reporting" search on its website, childrenandyouth.ohio.gov.

fire, safety, sanitation, and preventative medicine, (4) monthly visits by a family child care (FCC) staff member, (5) a pet certificate to provide proof of pet vaccinations and that the pet is safe to be around children, and (6) proof of liability insurance.[2] These requirements are similar to the requirements to become a family child care provider licensed by DCY. Currently, 27 states have enacted legislation to exempt these providers from licensure.[3]

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[2] See Military Childcare's, Become a Family Child Care (FCC) Provider.

[3] See Military One Source's, State Exemption for DOD Family Child Care Homes.