

Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Office of Research and Drafting

Legislative Budget Office

H.B. 183 135th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

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Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Lear and Bird

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

The bill requires a school or higher education institution to designate each multioccupancy restroom, locker room, changing room, or shower located at its campus for the exclusive use of students of either the male biological sex or the female biological sex. To the extent that a school or institution is not already complying with the bill, it may incur costs to update those facilities depending on implementation decisions. The costs may range from replacing signage at each facility to, in some limited cases, renovation or redesign of the facility.

Detailed Analysis

The bill requires schools and higher education institutions to designate each student restroom, locker room, changing room, or shower room that is accessible by multiple students at the same time for the exclusive use of students of either the male biological sex or the female biological sex. Additionally, schools are prohibited from permitting a member of the female biological sex and a member of the male biological sex to share overnight accommodations. The bill permits schools and institutions to establish and provide accommodations due to special circumstances, including single-occupancy facilities or controlled use of faculty facilities. It also provides exceptions to the prohibitions under the bill for children under the age of ten who are being assisted by a parent, guardian, or family member or for persons providing assistance to a person with a disability.

Most public restrooms, locker rooms, changing rooms, and showers in schools and institutions are single-sex or single-occupancy. The bill's fiscal effects will most likely depend on how each school or institution implements the bill, including the manner of designating a facility as single-sex and whether it currently has any multi-occupancy facilities that are not single-sex. For example, the Buckeye Association of School Administrators (BASA) was not able to identify

costs to public schools as a result of the bill due to a lack of bathrooms that would be impacted. However, the Inter-University Council of Ohio (IUC) and Ohio Association of Community Colleges (OACC) report that some public universities and community colleges, respectively, may respond by updating certain facilities, particularly to change the signs posted outside these facilities, or redesigning them. They estimate that replacing the signs would cost between \$30 and \$100 per sign. Any facility redesign could be more expensive, though the information from OACC and IUC suggest that these circumstances would be rare.

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