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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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Office

S.B. 116
134th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for S.B. 116's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Sens. Hackett and Reineke

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services will experience an indeterminate cost in order to review the proof of identify provided by unemployment insurance applicants determined eligible for benefits. These costs include information technology upgrades and personnel costs. Due to the volume of claims, the personnel costs could be significant.

Detailed Analysis

The bill requires those determined eligible for state unemployment compensation or Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) to provide proof of identity to the administrator of a public employment office in order to receive benefits. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) operates one office in each county, often called one-stops or OhioMeansJobs centers, which are primarily federally funded. The bill will increase costs for these offices and according to the Department will require information technology upgrades to allow these local offices to submit documents electronically. Due to the volume of claims, it would require a significant increase in personnel in order to process these documents.¹ The Department receives federal funds to support the unemployment compensation program and anticipates it may be able to use some administrative funds for some state-level activities. However, it is likely the Department would need to use other state funds to support this activity, particularly after the supplemental funds the state receives due to COVID-19 for the unemployment program

¹ According to ODJFS, for the week ending March 13, they received nearly 160,000 initial claims for state unemployment compensation and PUA. In addition, the Department stated that some offices are working by appointment only or currently are not open to the public.

administration expires. In addition, local funds could also be required. The amount is uncertain at this time.

The bill declares an emergency.