Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

127 th General Assembly of Ohio

Ohio Legislative Service Commission
77 South High Street, 9th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215-6136 ✧ Phone: (614) 466-3615
✧ *Internet Web Site:* http://www.lsc.state.oh.us/

BILL:	**Sub. S.B. 245**	DATE:	**May 1, 2008**
STATUS:	**As Reported by House Health**	SPONSOR:	**Sen. Schuring**
LOCAL IMPACT STATEMENT REQUIRED:	**No —**	**No local cost**	
CONTENTS:	**Modifies the laws regarding the practice of acupuncturists**		

State Fiscal Highlights

- The State Medical Board may experience a one-time minimal increase in administrative costs to update forms and make changes to the online licensing renewal system. The Board may also experience an ongoing minimal increase in costs to process additional applications for a certificate to practice as a physician assistant, which would be offset by the collection of the application fee. All revenue is deposited in, and all expenses are paid from, the State Medical Board Operating Fund (Fund 5C6).

Local Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Acupuncturists

The bill provides for the issuance of a certificate to practice, rather than a certificate of registration, to practice as an acupuncturist through the State Medical Board. According to the Board, the costs associated with this change are minimal.

The bill will necessitate a change on the Board's licensing forms and updates to the online license renewal system. There may be a one-time minimal increase in administrative costs associated with these changes.

The Board currently certifies approximately 100-120 acupuncturists. The Board anticipates no significant change in the number of acupuncturists seeking a certificate to practice.

Under current law, the fee for a certificate of registration for an acupuncturist is $100 and the biennial renewal fee is $100. Under the bill, the fee will be the same for a certificate to practice and renewal of a certificate to practice.

Physician assistants

The bill exempts an applicant for a certificate to practice as a physician assistant from the requirement that the applicant hold a master's or higher degree if the applicant meets certain criteria.

This provision may enable some individuals to apply for a certificate to practice as a physician assistant who would have otherwise been excluded under current law. This may cause a minimal increase in costs for the State Medical Board to process additional applications, which would be offset by the collection of the application fee. The fee to apply for a certificate to practice as a physician assistant is $200 and the biennial renewal fee is $100.

Optometrists

The bill clarifies a provision of recently enacted Sub. H.B. 149 of the 127th General Assembly regarding the conditions under which an optometrist may prescribe the anti-inflammatory drug methylpredisolone.

This provision will not have a direct fiscal effect on state or local government.

LSC fiscal staff: Stephanie Suer, Budget Analyst

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