



## *Local Fiscal Highlights*

- No direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.
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### *Detailed Fiscal Analysis*

#### **Registration for physicians and podiatrists**

The bill modifies the procedures used for the biennial registration renewal of a physician or podiatrist. The modifications primarily eliminate specificity of the procedures and instead grant general authority to the State Medical Board to prescribe the procedures. The bill also eliminates provisions in current law that require the State Medical Board to publish and mail, upon request, a printed list of all registered physicians or podiatrists.

These provisions may result in minimal savings to the State Medical Board as a result of lessening the specific procedural requirement associated with certificates of renewal and eliminating the requirement regarding publishing, and mailing on request, a printed list of registered physicians and podiatrists.

#### **Duration of visiting medical faculty certificates**

The State Medical Board is permitted to issue a visiting medical faculty certificate to a physician licensed in another state that has been appointed to serve in Ohio on the academic staff of a medical school. The bill increases the duration of a visiting medical faculty certificate from one year to three years and the fee from \$125 to \$375.

At present, there are four visiting medical faculty certificate holders. Under current law, a visiting medical faculty certificate is not renewable. By increasing the duration of time for which the certificate is valid, the State Medical Board believes that it may be more attractive for physicians from other states to come and teach at an Ohio medical school. The Board anticipates a slight increase in applications, which would result in a minimal gain in fee revenue to the Board.

#### **Effect of physician assistant laws on Veterans Administration employees**

The bill exempts medical personnel employed by the Veterans Administration (VA) from the laws governing the practice of physician assistants.

Currently, the fee for a physician assistant to obtain a certificate to practice is \$200 and a two-year renewal is \$100. Depending on the number of individuals who qualify for the new exemption, there may be a loss of fee revenue to the State Medical Board. In Ohio there are 5 VA Medical Centers, 2 outpatient clinics, 28 community-based outpatient clinics, and 6 Vet Centers. LSC staff contacted the VA and requested information on the number of physician assistants employed by the VA in Ohio. At the time of this writing, LSC staff had not yet received the requested information. Therefore, quantifying the magnitude of the fee revenue loss to the Board is not possible at this time.

**Criteria for admission to massage or cosmetic therapist examinations**

The bill allows an applicant for a certificate to practice massage therapy or cosmetic therapy to be admitted to the State Medical Board's examination on the basis of being licensed in another state or holding national certification.

As a result of these provisions, the State Medical Board expects that, annually, approximately 25 to 30 additional individuals will qualify to sit for the exam. The current cost to take the exam is comprised of two separate fees. The preliminary education fee is \$35 and the examination fee is \$250. The additional fees could result in a revenue gain of up to \$8,550  $((\$250 + \$35) \times 30)$  for the State Medical Board. In addition, the Board will experience a corresponding increase in administrative costs to review these additional applications, administer the examination, and issue the certificate. The collection of fees would presumably offset any increase in administrative costs.

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