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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6256

BILL NUMBER: SB 233

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 4, 2014

BILL AMENDED: Feb 3, 2014

SUBJECT: Pharmacy Technicians & Anesthesiologist Assistants.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Grooms

FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Davisson

BILL STATUS: As Passed Senate

FUNDS AFFECTED: GENERAL
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: *Pharmacy Technicians*- The bill changes pharmacy technician certification to licensure. The bill adds a high school graduation, high school equivalency certificate, or state general educational development requirement for pharmacy technician licensure. The bill specifies education and training requirements for pharmacy technicians.

Anesthesiologist Assistants- The bill provides for the licensure of anesthesiologist assistants. The bill establishes a Class B misdemeanor for professing to be an anesthesiologist assistant without a license.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014.

Summary of NET State Impact: The Professional Licensing Agency (PLA) would require expenditures estimated at \$15,100 for pharmacy technician licensure conversion and \$25,000 for anesthesiologist assistant licensure during in FY 2015. The tables under *Explanation of State Expenditures* further describe the costs of licensure for both of these health professions.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Pharmacy Technicians*- The following table breaks down the estimated cost to convert pharmacy technicians to licensure. Of note, the PLA would save staff time and expenditures by not having to re-license existing active certified pharmacy technicians under the bill's grandfather provision.

Table A. Estimated Cost to Convert Pharmacy Technicians to Licensure		
Expenditure Type	Explanation	Estimated Cost
License Development*	Salary cost to PLA to develop new license (includes rule development, staff input, and IT expenditures).	\$12,900
Additional Board Meetings	Cost for two additional meetings of the Pharmacy Board to adopt licensure provisions (assumes all members present).	\$2,200
TOTAL		\$15,100
*One-time start-up expenditures, which equate to the salary cost of PLA staff to develop the proposed license. If existing PLA staff is insufficient to develop the license, then additional staffing could be met via funded vacancies or hiring of a new staff member(s). Hiring of new staff outside the PLA's budget could be accomplished via reallocation of existing funds not currently used for staff or new appropriations made by the General Assembly.		

There may be minor adjustments to rules to incorporate high school equivalency certificates and the passage of a national certification examination. It is likely the Pharmacy Board could adopt new rules to incorporate the equivalency certificates during one of the additional board meetings to adopt the licensure rules.

Anesthesiologist Assistants- The following table further breaks down the costs to establish anesthesiologist assistants licensure.

Table B. Estimated Cost to License Anesthesiologist Assistants		
Expenditure Type	Explanation	Estimated Cost
License Development*	Cost of PLA staff time to develop license	\$10,700
Medical Licensing Board	Cost for two additional meetings (if needed) to establish license	\$2,000
Routine Administration	Cost to PLA to process licenses, collect revenue, and staff board meetings	\$10,300
Miscellaneous	Covers instate travel for staff and purchase of unquantifiable materials/supplies	\$2,000
TOTAL		\$25,000
*One-time start-up expenditures, which equate to the salary cost of PLA staff to develop the proposed license. If existing PLA staff is insufficient to develop the license, then additional staffing could be met via funded vacancies or hiring of a new staff member(s). Hiring of new staff outside the PLA's budget could be accomplished via reallocation of existing funds not currently used for staff or new appropriations made by the General Assembly.		

Additional Information- The Pharmacy Board already requires a potential pharmacy technician certification applicant to have attained either a high school diploma or a GED and graduated from a Pharmacy Board-approved training program. There were 13,238 pharmacy technicians with an active certificate at the end of FY 2013.

Explanation of State Revenues: *Anesthesiologist Assistants-* Setting an initial license fee for anesthesiologist assistants at \$150 is estimated to generate less than \$1,000 in the first year of implementation, unless efforts were made to attract additional qualified persons from outside of Indiana to

move to Indiana seeking employment as an anesthesiologist assistants.

Penalty Provision: Persons that recklessly, knowingly, and intentionally: (1) profess to be an anesthesiologist assistant, (2) use the title "anesthesiologist assistant", or (3) use the initials "A.A." unless they are licensed to practice as an anesthesiologist assistant would commit a Class B misdemeanor. If additional court cases occur and fines are collected, revenue to both the Common School Fund (from fines) and the state General Fund (from court fees) would increase. The maximum fine for a Class B misdemeanor is \$1,000. However, any additional revenue would likely be small.

Additional Information- Ohio currently licenses anesthesiologist assistants. Based on the number of persons holding a license from Ohio that reside in either Indiana, another border state to Indiana, or in the major metro areas of Ohio it is estimated approximately six qualified persons could seek licensure in the first year of implementation.

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Penalty Provision:* A Class B misdemeanor is punishable by up to 180 days in jail.

Explanation of Local Revenues: *Penalty Provision:* If additional court actions occur and a guilty verdict is entered, local governments would receive revenue from court fees. However, any change in revenue would likely be small.

State Agencies Affected: Professional Licensing Agency.

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

Information Sources: Indiana Professional Licensing Agency; Ohio License Verification System: <https://license.ohio.gov/lookup/default.asp>.

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