

Department of Planning and Budget

2006 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number SB 702

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron Davis, Jeannemarie D.

3. Committee Education and Health

4. Title Physicians; investigations without disciplinary actions

5. Summary/Purpose: Requires that, whenever an individual files a written complaint against a physician licensed by the Board of Medicine that is investigated but does not result in disciplinary action being taken by the Board, the Director of the Department of Health Professions shall provide the person who filed the relevant written complaint an explanation of the Board's decision that disciplinary action was not warranted.

6. Fiscal impact is preliminary

Expenditure Impact:

| <i>Fiscal Year</i> | <i>Dollars</i> | <i>Positions</i> | <i>Fund</i> |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 2006-07 | \$539,593 | - | Nongeneral Fund |
| 2007-08 | \$504,593 | - | Nongeneral Fund |
| 2008-09 | \$504,593 | - | Nongeneral Fund |
| 2009-10 | \$504,593 | - | Nongeneral Fund |
| 2010-11 | \$504,593 | - | Nongeneral Fund |
| 2011-12 | \$504,593 | - | Nongeneral Fund |

7. Budget amendment necessary: Yes, Item 299.

8. Fiscal implications: The Board of Medicine closes approximately 1,300 cases each year in which no disciplinary action is prescribed. This legislation would require the Board to prepare written explanation as to why no disciplinary action was taken and provide this documentation to the person who filed the complaint. The Board of Medicine does not currently prepare written summaries of this nature and it is assumed that the response required under this bill would need the expertise of a staff attorney. The Department of Health Professions estimates it would require six additional attorneys to handle the current volume of cases at a cost of \$453,690 (salary and fringe benefits.) In addition, it is assumed that these positions would coordinate any necessary review and follow-up. An administrative position at a cost of \$50,903 (salary and fringe benefits) would be needed to support the staff attorneys. In addition, there would be a one-time cost of \$5,000 per employee for supplies and equipment. The department would absorb any on-going operational costs. The additional costs associated with this legislation would be covered with Board of Medicine regulatory fees.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:

Department of Health Professions

10. Technical amendment necessary: No

11. Other comments: This bill is similar to HB 1501; however its cost is lower since it does not require that documentation be sent.

Date: 01/23/06

Document: G:\2006 Fiscal Year\2006 Ga Session\Efis 2006\Sb702.Doc

cc: Secretary of Health and Human Resources