

**Department of Planning and Budget
2010 Fiscal Impact Statement**

1. Bill Number: HB 597

House of Origin X Introduced ___ Substitute ___ Engrossed
Second House ___ In Committee ___ Substitute ___ Enrolled

2. Patron: Massie

3. Committee: Health, Welfare, and Institutions

4. Title: Signing death certificates; continuing education upon receipt of three or more complaints

5. Summary: Provides that any physician about whom three or more complaints have been filed regarding failure to complete medical certification for a death certificate within the required 24 hours, may be required to complete continuing education on the requirement and process for medical certification for death certificates.

6. Unknown Fiscal Impact (see item 8)

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

8. Fiscal Implications: An estimate of the fiscal impact cannot be determined since there is not sufficient data to project the potential number of physicians who would have three or more complaints.

The bill will require the department to modify its data systems in order to track complaints related to the failure of physicians to sign death certificates. Existing systems do not currently track such cases; however this cost should be minimal. In addition, it is assumed that compliance monitoring and administrative proceedings would experience some additional workload. Although, the costs associated with this workload increase will be proportional to the number of violations; the overall number, again, cannot be determined.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:
Department of Health Professions

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None

Date: 2/2/2010

Document: G:\2010 Fiscal Year\10 General Assembly\2010 EFIS\HB597.Doc