

Department of Planning and Budget

2011 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB 1151

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Quayle, Frederick M.

3. Committee: Education and Health

4. Title: Health professions; licensure of surgical assistants

5. Summary: This bill requires surgical assistants to be licensed by the Board of Medicine and creates an Advisory Board on Surgical Assistants to assist with such licensure and regulation. A surgical assistant is an individual other than a licensed physician assistant, podiatrist assistant, nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, dental hygienist, or registered nurse who, under the direct supervision of a qualified surgeon, directly performs significant surgical tasks including manipulating tissues or organs, manipulating or inserting subcutaneous sutures, placing hemostatic agents, injecting local anesthetic, harvesting veins, and implanting devices.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No. There is no clear estimate as to the additional expenditure required for the licensure of this profession, however additional nongeneral fund appropriation can be provided administratively once such spending needs are determined.

7. Fiscal Impact Is Unknown (see item 8)

8. Fiscal Implications: Although the regulation of surgical assistants will have a fiscal impact on the Board of Medicine, the amount and impact on licensure fees is unknown. Costs for the Board of Medicine will increase in licensing and disciplinary functions as well as the operation of another advisory board. The fee structure for professions regulated by the Department of Health Professions (DHP) is established as to offset the anticipated costs of the board. Although the department does not have an exact estimate as to the number of surgical assistants in the Commonwealth, it believes there are approximately 500.

Each profession regulated by the DHP has a dedicated advisory board, which costs approximately \$2,500 per year. This amount includes four annual meetings for the five advisory members and the associated costs to attend the four annual meetings of the full Board of Medicine. In addition, there is the cost of licensure and disciplinary functions. It is estimated that the anticipated revenue generated by licensure of this profession will be adequate to support an additional advisory board and the costs associated with licensure and discipline.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None

Date: 1/19/11

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