

## Department of Planning and Budget

### 2012 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB 313

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

**2. Patron:** Blevins, Harry B.

**3. Committee:** Education and Health

**4. Title:** Surgical assistants and surgical technologists; licensure and certification by Board of Medicine

**5. Summary:** This bill requires surgical assistants to be licensed and surgical technologists to be certified by the Board of Medicine. The bill also grandfathers in surgical assistants and surgical technologists practicing at any time during the six months prior to July 1, 2012, and allows a 12-month grace period in order to meet licensure and certification requirements for those completing a training program between July 1, 2012, and July 1, 2013.

**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 and technologists will have a fiscal impact on the Board of Medicine, the amount and impact on regulatory fees is unknown. It is assumed that costs for the Board of Medicine will increase in licensing and disciplinary functions. 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 estimates, it maintains that there are approximately 500 surgical assistants and 2,000 surgical technicians in the Commonwealth. Based on these numbers and the potential workload associated with regulating these professions, the department would need an additional full-time position in licensing for the Board of Medicine. Costs for a licensing specialist would increase expenditures for the board by an estimated \$55,000 per year.

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:** 1/27/12

**Document:** G:\2011 Fiscal Year\EFIS 2011\SB313.doc