

Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB 505

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: Carrico

3. Committee: Education and Health

4. Title: Doctorate of medical science; licensure and practice.

5. Summary: Establishes requirements for licensure and practice as a doctorate of medical science. The bill provides that it is unlawful to practice as a doctorate of medical science unless licensed by the Board of Medicine (Board) and requires that an applicant for licensure, among other requirements, (i) hold an active unrestricted license to practice as a physician assistant in the Commonwealth or another jurisdiction and be able to demonstrate engagement in active clinical practice as a physician assistant under physician supervision for at least three years and (ii) be a graduate of at least a two-year doctor of medical science program or an equivalent program that is accredited by a regional body under the U.S. Department of Education and an accrediting body approved by the Board. The bill provides that doctorates of medical science can practice only as part of a patient care team at a hospital or group medical practice engaged in primary care and are required to maintain appropriate collaboration and consultation, as evidenced in a written or electronic practice agreement, with at least one patient care team physician. The bill requires the Board to establish the scope of practice for doctorates of medical science and to promulgate regulations regarding collaboration and consultation among a patient care team and requirements for the practice agreement. The bill outlines the prescriptive authority of doctorates of medical science. The bill also authorizes various powers and requires various duties of a doctorate of medical science where such powers and duties are, under current law, given to and required of physician assistants and nurse practitioners.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Minimal, see item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill would have a minimal nongeneral fund impact on the Department of Health Professions and the Board of Medicine for the creation of a new licensed profession. It is unknown how many applicants the agency would receive, but DHP has estimated that number to be minimal. Therefore, any expenditures related to applicant review, licensure, investigations, discipline, and the promulgation of regulations can be absorbed within current resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: None.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.