

## Department of Planning and Budget 2021 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB1953S1

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

**2. Patron:** Gooditis

**3. Committee:** Finance and Appropriations

**4. Title:** Licensed certified midwives; licensure; practice.

**5. Summary:** Defines "practice of licensed certified midwifery," directs the Boards of Medicine and Nursing to establish criteria for the licensure and renewal of a license as a certified midwife, and requires licensed certified midwives to practice in consultation with a licensed physician in accordance with a practice agreement. The bill also directs the Department of Health Professions to convene a workgroup to study the licensure and regulation of certified nurse midwives, certified midwives, and certified professional midwives to determine the appropriate licensing entity for such professionals. The Department shall report its findings and conclusions to the Governor and the General Assembly by November 1, 2021.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** See item 8.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This bill, as amended, would have a nongeneral fund impact on the Commonwealth. The Department of Health Professions would require one position to process new registrants and meet the provisions of the bill estimated at \$66,000 including fringe benefits. While this new profession would be jointly regulated with the Board of Medicine, the functions of licensing and discipline would be handled by the staff of the Board Nursing. Fees for registration of a licensed certified midwife would be set at a level comparable to fees for professions jointly licensed by the Boards of Nursing and Medicine and would cover the costs of the position. The Boards are at capacity reviewing applications for the certified and licensed professions they presently regulates and therefore do not have sufficient staff to register this additional population. Any cost for the board to promulgate regulations can be absorbed within existing resources.

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

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** SB1320, as introduced by Senator Lucas, is a companion bill.