

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7581

BILL NUMBER: HB 1404

DATE PREPARED: Jan 8, 1999

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Continuing education for physicians and nurses.

FISCAL ANALYST: Bernadette Bartlett

PHONE NUMBER: 232-9586

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires the Medical Licensing Board to adopt rules that establish continuing education requirements designed to maintain the competency of physicians. Only clinical courses may satisfy the continuing education requirements, and Internet-based courses may only satisfy a maximum of 10% of the continuing education requirements. Physicians must submit proof of having obtained the necessary continuing education requirements to renew their licenses.

The State Board of Nursing must adopt rules that establish continuing education requirements designed to maintain the competency of nurses. Only clinical courses may satisfy the continuing education requirements, and Internet-based courses may only satisfy a maximum of 10% of the requirements. Nurses must also submit proof of having obtained the necessary continuing education requirements.

Effective Date: July 1, 1999.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The Health Professions Bureau, which oversees the regulation of physicians and nurses, will experience an increase in expenses associated with implementing the continuing education requirements. The primary expense will involve the recording and monitoring of the completion of the requirements. The Bureau will also experience an increase in expenses related to printing and postage necessary to notify practitioners and sponsors of continuing education about the continuing education requirements. Telephone expenses will also increase because of additional calls about continuing education and licensure. The specific impact is indeterminable at this time.

Explanation of State Revenues: The proposal may affect the number of applications and the amount of renewal fees that the Bureau collects. The specific impact, however, is indeterminable. License fees are deposited in the State General Fund. (Additional information will be provided when it becomes available.)

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Health Professions Bureau

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Health Professions Bureau (317) 233-4406.