

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

301 State House  
(317) 232-9855

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6396**

**BILL NUMBER: HB 1066**

**DATE PREPARED:** Feb 9, 2000

**BILL AMENDED:** Jan 26, 2000

**SUBJECT:** Physician assistant prescriptive authority.

**FISCAL ANALYST:** John Parkey

**PHONE NUMBER:** 232-9854

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** X GENERAL  
DEDICATED  
FEDERAL

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill gives a physician assistant authority to prescribe legend drugs. It also authorizes a physician to delegate prescribing privileges to a physician assistant. (The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the Interim Study Committee on Health and Social Service Issues.)

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2000.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** (Revised) The Health Professions Bureau oversees the state regulation of physician assistants. The Bureau could incur additional expenses if physician assistants are granted prescriptive authority. The promulgation of rules related to this bill is expected to require the Bureau's Physician Assistant Committee to meet monthly in FY 2001 and bimonthly in FY 2002. (The Committee currently meets quarterly.) The Bureau may also experience an increase in telephone inquiries about the proposed changes. The bill will also require the Bureau to discard current controlled substance registration (CSR) applications and create new applications to include physician assistants. The provision's total estimated costs for FY 2001 and FY 2002 are shown below.

Costs Associated with Licensing Physician Assistants and Allowing Prescriptive Authority		
Expense	FY2001	FY2002
Per Diem	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,500
Travel	\$ 9,500	\$ 4,750
Printing	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000
Postage	\$ 2,000	\$1,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 16,500</b>	<b>\$8,250</b>

The funds and resources required above could be supplied through a variety of sources, including the

following: (1) Existing staff and resources not currently being used to capacity; (2) Existing staff and resources currently being used in another program; (3) Authorized, but vacant, staff positions, including those positions that would need to be reclassified; (4) Funds that, otherwise, would be reverted; or (5) New appropriations. As of November, 1999, the Bureau had four full time vacancies. With respect to reversions, the Bureau reverted \$160,025 in FY 1999 and \$223,413 in FY 1998. Ultimately, the source of funds and resources required to satisfy the requirements of this bill will depend upon legislative and administrative actions. This bill contains no appropriations.

**Explanation of State Revenues:** The proposal may affect the number of new applications and the amount of renewal fees the Bureau collected. The specific impact, however, is indeterminable. As of August, 1999, there were 181 certified physician assistants in Indiana. The cost for an initial application is \$30, and the cost to renew the certificate is \$20 biennially. Revenue collected from the physician assistant application and renewal fees in FY 1999 equaled \$2,625. Revenue collected in FY 1998 equaled \$2,640. These fees are deposited in the State General Fund.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Health Professions Bureau

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** Barbara Marvel McNutt, Board Director and Staff Counsel, Health Professions Bureau (317) 233-4406.