



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1348

PRINTERS NO. 2680

PRIME SPONSOR: Sonney

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2013/14	FY 2014/15
State Board of Medicine Restricted Account	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Establishes requirements for physician review of patient records completed by physician assistants. This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation would amend Section 13 of the Medical Practice Act to do the following:

- Modify the current regulatory requirement that supervising physicians must review and countersign all patient medical records completed by their physician assistants within 10 days.
- Supervising physicians are required to review and countersign 100% of patient records within 10 days for the first 12 months of practice for newly graduated physician assistants and for physician assistants practicing in a new specialty. For experienced physician assistants who begin working under a new supervising physician, the 100% standard shall be required only for the first 6 months.
- For physician assistants who don't fall into one of the above categories, the supervising physician shall personally review on a regular basis a selected number of patient records. The physician shall select patient records for review based on criteria documented in the supervising physician and physician assistant's written agreement, and the number shall be sufficient to assure adequate review of the physician assistant's scope of practice.
- The written agreement must specifically describe the level of patient record reviews that will be provided.
- The board will review the submitted application for completeness only and issue a 120-day temporary authorization for the physician assistant to begin practice. If the application is not complete, including, but not limited to, required information, signatures or fees being provided, a temporary authorization shall not be issued. The board will notify the supervising physician of final approval or disapproval within 120 days of the temporary authorization. If any discrepancies are not corrected within 120 days, the temporary authorization for the physician assistant to practice expires.

FISCAL IMPACT: This legislation would have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: November 20, 2013

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.