



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 454

PRINTERS NO. 1549

PRIME SPONSOR: DeLuca

COST / (SAVINGS)

| FUND | FY 2016/17 | FY 2017/18 |
|---|------------|------------|
| Professional Licensure Augmentation Account | \$0 | \$0 |

SUMMARY: Requires pharmacy technicians to register with the State Board of Pharmacy. This legislation would take effect in 60 days; however, registration requirements of pharmacy technicians would not take effect until one year after the State Board of Pharmacy has promulgated final regulations.

ANALYSIS: This legislation amends the Pharmacy Act (Act 699 of 1961) to do the following:

- Beginning one year after the State Board of Pharmacy (Board) promulgates final regulations, pharmacy technicians are required to register biennially on a form prescribed by the Board and pay a registration fee established by the board by regulation.
 - An individual must have an unrestricted registration from the board to practice as a pharmacy technician or a temporary permit to practice as a pharmacy technician trainee.
- Pharmacy technicians and trainees must work under the direct and immediate personal supervision of a licensed pharmacist.
- In order to register as a pharmacy technician an applicant must be at least 17 years old, possess a high school diploma or its equivalent, have completed a board-approved training program and be of good moral character with no drug or alcohol problems or drug-related felony convictions.
- Individuals employed as pharmacy technicians for at least one year of the two-year period immediately preceding the effective date of the legislation are not required to satisfy the age and education requirements.
- The Board may issue a pharmacy technician trainee temporary permit (valid for a 2-year period) to individuals who are at least 16 years old provided they are of good moral character with no drug or alcohol problems or drug-related felony convictions.
- Pharmacy technicians and trainees are required to wear name tags that clearly identify their title.
- The Board shall promulgate final regulations to implement the new provisions within 18 months of the effective date.

FISCAL IMPACT: According to the Department of State, the State Board of Pharmacy estimates there will be 34,000 pharmacy technician registrations in the Commonwealth which would require 15 new full-time positions. The estimated personnel costs are \$1,532,468 and the operating costs are \$507,335 for a total annual cost of \$2,039,803. Operating expenses would include added lease space, new workstations/computers, mileage reimbursement for inspectors, credit card fees for online payments, and postage costs. With an estimated 34,000 pharmacy technician registrations, the estimated biennial cost per license would be \$120. Since the Board would have over 20 months (effective date plus 18 months) to promulgate final regulations, it is highly unlikely than any expenses would be incurred until FY 2018/19 at the earliest.

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: May 8, 2017

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