

# SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## FISCAL NOTE

**BILL NO.** House Bill 261

**PRINTER'S NO.** 273

### **AMOUNT**

No Adverse Fiscal Impact  
Potential Revenue Increase

### **FUND**

Professional Licensure Augmentation Account

### **DATE INTRODUCED**

January 23, 2013

### **PRIME SPONSOR**

Representative Readshaw

### **DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL**

House Bill 261 provides specific authority to all 29 licensing boards and commissions within the Department of States' Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs (BPOA) to suspend or revoke a license for failure to pay a fine or cost assessed as a result of a disciplinary proceeding.

The bill also provides a new mechanism for collecting fines of \$1,000 or more. Unpaid fines and any other associated costs and interest which total \$1,000 or more, may be filed by the licensing boards and commissions, or the Office of the Attorney General acting on their behalf, as a judgment/lien upon the licensee in the Court of Common Pleas where the licensee is located. The judgment would be reported on the licensee's credit report and could be collected by action of the court. Once the judgment is paid, the board or commission would have 90 days to notify the court that the judgment has been paid in full. This process is the same as currently used for collection of unpaid criminal fines and taxes.

The act takes effect in 60 days.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

No adverse fiscal impact on the funds in the Professional Licensure Augmentation Account are expected. The Department of State has noted that any minimal costs incurred to implement the legislation will be more than offset by the collection of revenue which will be possible under its provisions. Currently, over \$3.3 million in civil fines and penalties are due and remain uncollected by the 29 licensing boards and commissions.