

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 1328

PRINTER NO. 2641

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

Professional Licensure Augmentation Account

DATE INTRODUCED

May 6, 2021

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Greiner

DESCRIPTION

House Bill 1328 amends the CPA Law to update provisions relating to peer review requirements, code of ethics and education courses. The changes are as follows:

Code of Professional Conduct

The bill directs the State Board of Accountancy (board) to adopt a nationally recognized code of professional conduct.

Requirements for Issuance of a Certificate

The bill expands the scope of classes a student can take toward earning an accounting degree to include economics and technology to the list of qualified classes.

Licensing Examination

The bill permits an applicant for licensure to sit for the licensing examination upon completing 120 semester credits.

Peer Review

The bill makes numerous updates to peer review standards as follows:

- Specifies that the firms that require a peer review will need to be enrolled in a board-approved, peer review program;
- Eliminates the exception to the peer review requirements that allow firms with two or fewer licensees to have a five-year peer review cycle rather than a three-year cycle;
- Streamlines peer review submission requirements to allow board access; and
- Makes conforming changes to comply with current peer review standards.

This legislation shall take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This legislation would have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.