

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB995

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Tran

3. **Committee:** Health and Human Services

4. **Title:** Board of Medicine; temporary licensure of physicians licensed in a foreign country.

5. **Summary:** Permits the Board of Medicine to issue a provisional license to a physician licensed in a foreign country for no more than two years, then a subsequent renewable two-year license if the physician practices in a medically underserved area. After two years of practice under the renewable license, a physician licensed in a foreign country is eligible to apply for a full, unrestricted license to practice medicine. The bill specifies that eligibility for such licenses is conditional upon an applicant demonstrating certain educational and experiential qualifications to the Board and obtaining employment with a medical care facility that provides an assessment and evaluation program for physicians licensed in a foreign country.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** See item 8.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The provisions of this legislation would have an indeterminate fiscal impact on the Board of Medicine. The bill states the Board may issue a provisional license to a physician previously licensed or otherwise authorized to practice in a foreign country to practice if the applicant submits evidence acceptable to the Board. It is unknown how many additional applicants this would generate.

However, the boards are currently at operating capacity and in need of additional licensing staff to handle the existing licensing volume. The agency estimates that if the increase in workload is similar to current application volume, then it would need one position at \$97,476, which would be supported by application fees.

Any increase in workload to promulgate regulations can be handled within existing resources.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** The Department of Health Professions.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.