

FISCAL NOTE

August 11, 2017

Bill No:	HB 548	Printer's No:	573	Sponsor:	Readshaw (D)
-----------------	--------	----------------------	-----	-----------------	--------------

COST / (SAVINGS)

Fund (s)	2017-18	2018-19
General Fund – the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs Restricted Account	\$ 2,513,171	\$ 2,290,120

SUMMARY: The bill would require all licensees of the 29 licensing boards within the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs (BPOA) to self-report any criminal convictions.

ANALYSIS: The bill would require each holder of a license, registration certificate or permit from a licensing board or commission to report to that board or commission any of the following within 30 days:

- If the individual has been convicted of any felony, misdemeanor, or drug violation
- If the individual was found guilty of any felony, misdemeanor, or drug violation
- If the individual pleaded nolo contendere to any felony, misdemeanor, or drug violation
- If the individual received probation without a verdict for any felony, misdemeanor, or drug violation
- If the individual received accelerated rehabilitative disposition for any felony, misdemeanor, or drug violation

The act would take effect in 60 days.

Currently, the boards are generally authorized to take disciplinary action against licensees for certain criminal convictions. The mandated reporting requirement of the bill would allow the agency to become aware of the grounds for discipline and act more promptly. In calendar year 2016, the Professional Complaint Office opened 15,042 complaints. Once self-reporting of criminal convictions becomes effective the Department of State (DOS) estimates an additional 3,750 complaints would be opened annually.

FISCAL IMPACT: DOS estimates that the bill would have a fiscal impact of \$2.5 million in the first year of implementation and \$2.3 million annually thereafter in operating and personnel costs. Fees assessed by state boards may need to be increased if the cost of processing the influx of complaints exceeds the funds available in the restricted account.

To process the volume of reports and to take appropriate action, the BPOA estimates that it would need to hire 21 additional employees. 91 current staff members in DOS's Professional Compliance Office, Prosecution Division and Counsel Division processed the 15,042 opened complaints in 2016.

FISCAL NOTE

August 11, 2017

See charts continued on the next page for cost breakdown.

Position Title	New Hires Needed	Annual Salary	Total New Hire Salary Cost
Drug and Alcohol Abuse Program Specialist	1	\$ 58,465	\$ 58,465
Attorney 4	1	\$ 102,465	\$ 102,465
Attorney 2	4	\$ 78,651	\$ 314,604
Attorney 1	1	\$ 68,871	\$ 68,871
Legal Assistant 1	1	\$ 39,413	\$ 39,413
Legal Assistant 2	3	\$ 44,812	\$ 134,436
Paralegal	3	\$ 51,149	\$ 153,447
Administrative Assistant 1	3	\$ 44,812	\$ 134,436
Professional Conduct Investigator	4	\$ 51,149	\$ 204,596
TOTAL PERSONNEL SALARY COST	21	-	\$ 1,210,733

Initial Fiscal Year Costs

Cost	Amount
Personnel Salary	\$ 1,210,733
Personnel Benefits	\$ 998,387
Operating - One-Time	\$ 304,051
TOTAL COST	\$ 2,513,171

Subsequent Fiscal Year Costs

Cost	Amount
Personnel Salary	\$ 1,210,733
Personnel Benefits	\$ 998,387
TOTAL COST	\$ 2,209,120