

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA



Legislative Fiscal Note

BILL NUMBER: House Bill 1330 (Fourth Edition)

SHORT TITLE: Authorize Licensure/Anesthesiologist Asst's.

SPONSOR(S): Representative Jeffus

FISCAL IMPACT					
	Yes (X)	No ()	No Estimate Available ()		
	(in dollars)				
	<u>FY 2005-06</u>	<u>FY 2006-07</u>	<u>FY 2007-08</u>	<u>FY 2008-09</u>	<u>FY 2009-10</u>
REVENUES:					
General Fund	No Impact to General Fund				
North Carolina Medical Board	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$7,000
POSITIONS					
(cumulative):					
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: NC Medical Board					
EFFECTIVE DATE: When law.					

BILL SUMMARY: House Bill 1330 allows for the licensure of anesthesiologist assistants, establishes an initial and annual registration fee of \$150 for anesthesiologist assistants, and includes other regulatory provisions regarding anesthesiologist assistants.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY: Anesthesiologist assistants (AAs) are allied health professionals who work under the direction of licensed anesthesiologists to develop and implement anesthesia care plans. They possess a premedical background, a baccalaureate degree, and are required to complete a comprehensive didactic and clinical program at the graduate school level.

Under current law, AAs cannot practice in North Carolina, but they currently practice in sixteen other states. States in which AAs work by license, regulation, and/or certification include Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Missouri, New Mexico (in university hospital settings),

Ohio, South Carolina, and Vermont. States in which AAs are granted practice privilege through physician delegation include Colorado, the District of Columbia, Michigan, New Hampshire, Texas, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. Nationwide, there are approximately 700 practicing AAs and three graduate-level education and certification programs for AAs that turn out approximately 100 graduates per year.

The NC Association of Anesthesiologists anticipates approximately 30 AAs would seek licensure in North Carolina in 2006-07 and approximately 10 per year in subsequent years. The NC Medical Board anticipates the actual registration fee for AAs will be set by rule to approximate the current fee for physician's assistants (\$100). The chart below shows estimated fee revenues resulting from House Bill 1330.

House Bill 1330, Schedule of Proposed Fees				
	Registration Fee		Number of AAs	Total Fees by Type
	Maximum	Actual		
Initial registration	\$150	\$100	30	\$3,000
Annual registration	\$150	\$100	10	\$1,000

The following chart shows projected fee revenues for the NC Medical Board based on the actual fee amounts shown above. The projection assumes 10 new AAs will come to work in North Carolina each year. The base registration (30 in FY 2006-07) and annual growth rate are based on discussions with representation for the NC Society of Anesthesiologists.

House Bill 1330, Projected Fee Revenues by Fiscal Year					
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Initial registration	30	10	10	10	10
Annual registration	0	30	40	50	60
Total registrations	30	40	50	60	70
Total fee revenues	\$ 3,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 7,000

SOURCES OF DATA: NC Society of Anesthesiologists; NC Medical Board; American Society of Anesthesiologists

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

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