HB 20-1041

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

This bill requires physician assistants who have practiced for at least three years to have the same financial responsibility as physicians. Starting in the current FY 2019-20, the bill will minimally increase state workload on an ongoing basis.

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, physician assistants are required to maintain professional liability insurance of at least $1.0 million per claim and $3.0 million for all claims. This bill repeals that requirement and requires that physician assistants who have been practicing for at least three years comply with the same financial responsibility requirements as physicians. This includes:

- having professional liability insurance coverage of at least $1.0 million per incident and $3.0 million annual aggregate per year;
- allowing the Medical Board to lower the financial requirements for physician assistants;
- mandating that physician assistants give the Medical Board evidence that they have met the requirements; and
- doubling the financial responsibility for any physician assistant that has committed medical malpractice twice in one year.

State Expenditures

Starting in the current FY 2019-20, workload in the Medical Board in the Department of Regulatory Agencies will increase to update any rules and to conduct outreach on new requirements. Any increase in workload is assumed to be minimal.
Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State and Local Government Contacts

Higher Education  Information Technology  Regulatory Agencies