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Fiscal Note

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Prime Sponsors: Sen. Garcia; Smallwood Bill Status: Senate HHS
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Bill Topic: SUNSET CONTINUE MEDICAL TRANSPARENCY ACT

- Summary of Fiscal Impact:
- State Revenue
- State Expenditure
- State Transfer
- TABOR Refund
- Local Government
- Statutory Public Entity

Sunset Bill. SB 21-097 continues the Healthcare Professionals Profile Program in the Department of Regulatory Agencies, which is scheduled to repeal on September 1, 2021. State fiscal impacts under the bill include only the continuation of the program's current expenditures. The program is continued through September 1, 2028.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under SB 21-097^1

Table with 3 columns: Category, Budget Year FY 2021-22, and Out Year FY 2022-23. Rows include New Impacts (Revenue, Expenditures, TABOR Refund) and Continuing Impacts (Revenue, Expenditures, TABOR Refund).

^1 Table 1 shows the new impacts resulting from changes to the program under the bill, and the continuing impacts from extending the program beyond its current repeal date. Because the bill continues a program without making any changes, there are no new impacts. The continuing program impacts will end if the bill is not passed and the program is allowed to repeal.

Summary of Legislation

The bill continues the Michael Skolnik Medical Transparency Act for seven years, until September 1, 2028. It is currently scheduled to repeal on September 1, 2021.

Background

The Michael Skolnik Medical Transparency Act (House Bill 07-1331) created the Healthcare Professionals Profile Program, which requires certain medical practitioners to complete profiles for consumers to review when considering medical services. The program has been expanded several times, and the list of practitioners includes:

- athletic trainers;
- audiologists;
- acupuncturists;
- certified nurse aides;
- chiropractors;
- direct-entry midwives;
- dentists and dental hygienists;
- hearing aid providers;
- nurses;
- optometrists;
- pharmacists;
- physical therapists;
- physicians;
- physician assistants;
- podiatrists; and
- all mental health professionals.

Each practitioner is required to maintain their online profile with the Department of Regulatory Agencies and include information including education, board certifications, and any public disciplinary actions.

Continuing Program Impacts

The Department of Regulatory Agencies is expected to have continuing expenditures of \$170,000 and 2.0 FTE per year to administer the Healthcare Professions Profile Program. These costs are based on the costs estimated in the sunset report. Costs are estimated since there is not a dedicated budget line for the Healthcare Professionals Profile Program and its operations are intertwined with several others programs. If this bill is enacted, current expenditures will continue for the program starting in FY 2022-23. If this bill is not enacted, the program will end on September 1, 2022, following a wind-down period, and state expenditures will decrease starting in FY 2022-23 by the amounts shown in Table 1 above.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect September 1, 2021.

State and Local Government Contacts

Information Technology Regulatory Agencies

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit: leg.colorado.gov/fiscalnotes.