



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Revised Fiscal Note

(replaces fiscal note dated February 16, 2023)

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| Drafting Number: | LLS 23-0226 | Date: | March 16, 2023 |
| Prime Sponsors: | Sen. Winter F.; Simpson Rep. Winter T.; Michaelson Jenet | Bill Status: | House Public & Behavioral Health |
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Bill Topic: **PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT COLLABORATION REQUIREMENTS**

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| Summary of Fiscal Impact: | <input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue | <input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer | <input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity |

The bill modifies the relationship between a physician assistant and a physician or podiatrist. In FY 2023-24 only, the bill minimally increases state workload.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: This revised fiscal note reflects the reengrossed bill.

Summary of Legislation

The bill removes the requirement that a physician assistant be supervised by a physician or podiatrist, replacing it with a requirement that the physician assistant enter into a collaborative agreement with a physician licensed in good standing or a physician group. The agreement must include a description of the collaboration and performance evaluation process and any additional requirements made by the employer that is specific to the physician assistant’s practice. With a collaborative agreement in place, a physician assistant can practice medicine, including prescribing and dispensing medication, including controlled substances.

If the physician assistant has fewer than 5,000 practice hours, the agreement must include additional provisions such as completing certain practice hours in-person or through technology, defining the expected nature of the collaboration, and requiring a performance evaluation. The collaborative agreement must be made available at the physician assistant’s practice site.

The bill also requires physician assistants who have been practicing for less than 3 years to meet certain financial responsibility requirements that they are exempt from under current law.

State Expenditures

In FY 2023-24 only, the bill will increase workload in the Department of Regulatory Agencies to conduct rulemaking, outreach, and education to physician assistants, physicians, and podiatrists. This workload can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Higher Education
Regulatory Agencies

Information Technology

Judicial