

Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note

**FINAL
FISCAL NOTE**

Drafting Number: LLS 12-0628
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Balmer
 Sen. Guzman

Date: June 18, 2012
Bill Status: Signed into Law
Fiscal Analyst: Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

TITLE: CONCERNING LICENSURE OF ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2012-2013	FY 2013-2014
State Revenue		
Cash Funds - Fees		
Division of Registrations Cash Fund	\$2,240	
State Expenditures		
Cash Funds		
Division of Registrations Cash Fund	\$2,717	
FTE Position Change		
Effective Date: The bill was signed into law by the Governor on May 29, 2012, and takes effect August 8, 2012, assuming no referendum petition is filed.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2012-2013: See State Appropriations section.		
Local Government Impact: None.		

Summary of Legislation

To practice medicine in the state, a physician or a physician assistant must adhere to the requirements of the Medical Practice Act (Article 36, Title 12, C.R.S.). This bill adds anesthesiologist assistants to the act and, effective July 1, 2013, requires that they be licensed by the Colorado Medical Board (CMB) in the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) to practice in the state. The bill sets the minimum qualifications for licensure, and subjects anesthesiologist assistants to the same standards for unprofessional conduct and discipline that exist for physician assistants.

A licensed anesthesiologist assistant, working under the direct supervision of a physician anesthesiologist, may be delegated medical tasks that provide anesthesia services to patients. A supervising physician may not supervise more than three assistants without approval from the CMB.

State Revenue

In FY 2012-13, this bill increases state revenue from fees by \$2,240.

Fee impact on anesthesiologist assistants. Section 2-2-322, C.R.S., requires legislative service agency review of measures which create or increase any fee collected by a state agency. Fee calculations are set administratively by the DORA based on the cash fund balance, estimated program costs, and the estimated number of licenses. The number affected is based on information from the Colorado Academy of Anaesthesiologist Assistants. The table below identifies the fee impact of this bill.

Table 1. Fee Impact on Anesthesiologist Assistants			
Type of Fee	Proposed Fee	Number Affected	Total Fee Impact
Original License	\$160	14	\$2,240

State Expenditures

For FY 2012-13, the total increase in state expenditures is \$2,717. Since the bill adds only a few professionals to an existing regulatory program, new expenses are anticipated to be minimal. The Division of Registrations in the DORA will require 20 hours of legal services from the Department of Law at a blended rate of \$75.71 per hour to assist the CMB to adopt rules. Additionally, the division requires 16 hours of information technology modifications at a rate of \$74 per hour in order to create a separate license type for anesthesiologist assistants. Total costs are displayed in Table 2.

Table 2. Expenditures Under House Bill 12-1332	
Cost Components	FY 2012-13
Legal Services	\$1,514
Information Technology	1,184
Printing & Postage	19
TOTAL	\$2,717

State Appropriations

For FY 2012-13, this bill requires a cash fund appropriation of \$2,717 from the Division of Registrations Cash Fund to the Department of Regulatory Agencies. Of this amount, the Department of Law requires \$1,514 in reappropriated funds.

Departments Contacted

Law Regulatory Agencies