

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2011

Legislative Fiscal Note

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 743 (Second Edition)

SHORT TITLE: Encourage Volunteer Health Care Providers.

SPONSOR(S): Senator Goolsby

<b>FISCAL IMPACT</b>					
	<b>Yes ( )</b>	<b>No (X)</b>	<b>No Estimate Available ( )</b>		
	<b><u>FY 2011-12</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2012-13</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2013-14</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2014-15</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2015-16</u></b>
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>**No Fiscal Impact**</b>				
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
<b>POSITIONS (cumulative):</b>					
<b>PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) &amp; PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED:</b> North Carolina Medical Board					
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b> This act is effective when it becomes law					

**BILL SUMMARY:**

Senate Bill 743 amends GS 90-12.1A, authorizing the NC Medical Board (Board) to issue a "limited volunteer license" (rather than a military limited volunteer license) to an applicant with a license to practice medicine and surgery in another state who shows a letter establishing active licensure in the other state (deletes requirement that the person be authorized to treat personnel enlisted in the U.S. armed services or veterans). It adds that a limited volunteer license holder may not practice medicine and surgery within NC for more than 30 days per calendar year. The bill amends GS 90-13.2, specifying that limited volunteer license holders will pay no registration fee.

The bill deletes requirement that limited license holders comply with continuing medical education requirements. It deletes a provision related to retired limited volunteer licenses, and instead enacts new GS 90-21.1B, authorizing the Board to issue a "retired limited volunteer license" to an applicant who is a physician with an inactive license to practice medicine and surgery issued by NC or another state. Senate Bill 743 requires retired limited volunteer license holders to practice only at clinics treating indigent patients, and makes a violation of this provision a Class 3 misdemeanor, with a fine not less than \$25 and not more than \$50 for each offense.

**ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:**

Senate Bill 743 expands the pool of possible limited volunteer licensees by removing the requirement that the licensee must be authorized to treat personnel enlisted in the U.S. armed services or veterans. It also eliminates the \$25 annual registration fee for those who have a limited volunteer license. However, it keeps that \$25 annual registration fee for those who have a retired limited volunteer license.

The North Carolina Medical Board estimates that there have only been five persons with a military limited volunteer license, ever. None of these are currently licensed. Since no licensees would be impacted by the elimination of the \$25 annual registration fee, there would be no loss in annual revenue.

**SOURCES OF DATA:** North Carolina Medical Board

**TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS:** None

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