

## OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-6835

### AN ACT ADOPTING THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT LICENSURE COMPACT.

#### ***OFA Fiscal Note***

##### ***State Impact:***

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Revenue Loss	80,000	178,000
Public Health, Dept.	Professional Assistance Program Account - Revenue Loss	2,400	5,200
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below
Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection	GF - Potential Cost	Minimal	Minimal
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal
Emergency Services and Public Protection, Dept.	Applicant Fingerprint Card Submission Account - Potential Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

##### ***Municipal Impact:***

Municipalities	Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Various Municipal Police Departments	Potential Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal

#### ***Explanation***

The bill enters Connecticut into the Physician Assistant (PA)

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Licensure Compact, allowing PAs who are licensed in one participating compact state to practice in another without requiring additional licensure. This results in several fiscal impacts, described below.

**Section 1** results in: (1) a General Fund revenue loss<sup>1</sup> of an estimated \$80,000 in FY 26 and \$180,000 in FY 27 from the loss of Connecticut licensure fees from applicants who are also licensed within other participating compact states, (2) an estimated revenue loss of \$2,400 in FY 26 and \$5,200 in FY 27 to the professional assistance program account that supports the Health Assistance InterVention Education Network (HAVEN) through a priced-in \$5 fee within annual licensure renewals; and (3) a potential General Fund annual cost from the PA Licensure Compact Commission's collection of an undetermined yearly fee.

Although the PA compact allows the Compact Commission to levy an annual assessment on participating states and fees on participating PAs to cover the cost of its operations, such authority has historically been unexercised in similar occupational compact agreements. A state assessment fee has yet to be established by the Commission.

FY 26 estimates are given as half-year calculations. The PA compact is still in the process of being implemented and is not projected to be operationalized until early 2026.

**Section 2** requires physician assistant license applicants to submit to fingerprint-based state criminal history records checks, resulting in: (1) a potential cost to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP), (2) a potential revenue gain to the General Fund,<sup>2</sup> and (3) a potential revenue gain to the Applicant Fingerprint Card

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<sup>1</sup> It is anticipated that DPH will receive 50 fewer initial PA applications (\$190 per application) and 475 fewer PA renewals (at \$150 per renewal excluding the HAVEN fee) in the first year of joining the compact (assumed to be the second half of FY 26). This is anticipated to increase to 110 initial applicants and 1,049 applicants in FY 2, for full-year impacts and growth of 10.5% as in FY 23 to FY 24.

<sup>2</sup>DESPP conducts state criminal history records checks for a fee of \$75. The revenue that is collected from this fee is deposited into the General Fund.

Submission Account and various municipal police departments<sup>3</sup> in FY 26 and FY 27. The potential cost to DESPP will depend on the extent to which the volume of new applicants for state criminal history checks increases department workload and impacts overtime. It is unknown how many employers already require such applicants to submit to such checks as a condition of employment.

### ***The Out Years***

The fiscal impact identified above will continue in the future subject to: (1) the number of new and renewal Compact applicants who would otherwise have sought Connecticut licensure and are also licensed in other, Compact-participating states; and (2) the number of state criminal history records checks performed by DESPP and various municipal police departments for PA license applicants. The timing and scale of these impacts depend on when the Compact becomes fully operational.

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<sup>3</sup>DESPP conducts fingerprinting for a fee of \$15 fee per person paid to the Applicant Fingerprint Card Submission Account. Municipal police departments may also conduct the required fingerprinting for state criminal history records checks and typically charge a fee of \$10 to \$15.