

Fiscal Estimate - 2025 Session

☒ Original ☐ Updated ☐ Corrected ☐ Supplemental

LRB Number 25-1923/1	Introduction Number SB-0031
Description state agency status for certain physician assistants and advanced practice nurses who provide services without compensation for local health departments or school districts	
Fiscal Effect State: <div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap;"><div style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations</div><div style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues</div><div style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs</div></div> Local: <div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap;"><div style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory</div><div style="width: 33%;">5. Types of Local Government Units Affected <div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap;"><div style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> School Districts</div><div style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts</div><div style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Cities</div></div></div></div>	

Fund Sources Affected
☐ GPR ☐ FED ☐ PRO ☐ PRS ☐ SEG ☐ SEGS

Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DHS 3/10/2025

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Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

SB 31 would provide that physician assistants (PAs) and advanced practice nurse prescribers (APNPs) who are not employed by a local health department but who provide services without compensation for the programs and services provided by a local health department are, for the provision of those services, state agents of the Department of Health Services (DHS) for certain legal purposes and protections.

SB 31 would also provide that PAs and APNPs may be selected by a school district or local health department to supervise an immunization program and issue orders for the administration of immunizations that are in accordance with written protocols issued by DHS. If the PA or APNP is not an employee of the school district or local health department, receives no compensation for their services as supervisor of the immunization program, and acts in accordance with written protocols issued by DHS, the individual is a state agent of DHS for the same certain legal purposes and protections as described above.

Under current law, volunteer physicians covered by s. 165.25(6) are considered state agents of DHS for legal purposes and protections. If a civil action arises out of an act committed by the provider during the lawful course of their duties, the state provides legal counsel, and any judgments against the provider are paid by the state and capped at \$250,000. However, a governmental unit need not provide or pay for legal representation if the provider's malpractice insurance provides representation.

Liability claims against the state are paid from funds administered by the Department of Administration (DOA). DHS pays premiums to DOA for liability insurance. The premiums for DHS were \$6.79 million in FY24 and \$6.75 million in FY25. If volunteer PAs and APNPs were added to DHS for liability purposes, and claims were made against them, the Department's liability premiums would increase. However, the amount by which the premiums will increase as a result of the bill cannot be estimated.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications