



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 22-0110 Date: February 15, 2022
Prime Sponsors: Rep. Lontine; Will Bill Status: House Health & Insurance
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Bill Topic: PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT COLLABORATION REQUIREMENTS

Summary of Fiscal Impact:
State Revenue, State Expenditure, State Transfer, TABOR Refund, Local Government, Statutory Public Entity

The bill modifies the relationship between a physician assistant and a physician or podiatrist. In FY 2022-23 only, the bill minimally increases state workload.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary of Legislation

The bill modifies the relationship between a physician assistant and a physician or podiatrist. Instead of receiving direct supervision from a physician or podiatrist for specific periods of time, a physician assistant who has completed fewer than 3,000 hours of post graduate clinical practice experience or who is beginning practice in a new specialty must enter into a collaborative plan with the physician or podiatrist. A collaborative plan must be developed at the practice level, describe how collaboration will occur, describe methods for evaluating the physician assistant, and be made available at the physician assistant's practice site. A licensed physician or podiatrist may enter into collaborative plans with up to 8 physician assistants at one time, but an employer cannot require a licensed physician or podiatrist to enter into more than 4 at any one time as a condition of employment.

Physician assistants who have practiced for more than 3,000 hours, or who are entering a new specialty with 2,000 hours of practice in the new specialty and 3,000 total practice hours, are no longer required to maintain a collaborative plan but must consult with and refer to appropriate members of the physician assistant's health-care team based on a patient's condition; the physician assistant's education, experience, and competencies; and the standard of care.

## State Expenditures

In FY 2022-23 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  
Judicial

Information Technology  
Regulatory Agencies