



VERMONT LEGISLATIVE
Joint Fiscal Office

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Fiscal Note

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S.142 – An act relating to a pathway to licensure for internationally trained physicians and medical graduates

As recommended by the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, Draft 1.1¹

Bill Summary

The bill proposes to establish a pathway to licensure, including a provisional license to practice medicine with supervision and a limited license to practice medicine, for internationally trained physicians and medical graduates. The bill would also require the Vermont Department of Health (VDH), in collaboration with the Board of Medical Practice, to provide the committees of jurisdiction a report detailing a pathway to licensure for internationally trained physicians and medical graduates as an alternative to the pathway laid out earlier in the bill.

Fiscal Impact

In order to implement this licensure program as proposed in Secs. 1 and 2 by July 1, 2028, the Board of Medical Practice would need resources in fiscal year 2028 to set up and administer the program, including an additional one to three full-time equivalent (FTE) positions for program administration, credential verification, training program approval, and clinical evaluation and oversight. The annualized cost of each position, including salary, fringe benefits, and other associated costs, could be as much as \$150,000. Further, other states that have explored similar programs (such as Colorado and Iowa) envisioned the need for contractors and consultants to help implement and/or administer parts of their programs with estimates ranging from \$150,000 to \$750,000. The Board of Medical Practice will likely have similar needs for contractors to implement the program as envisioned in the bill.

Finally, according to VDH, the Board of Medical Practice is funded completely by fees. The bill does not include any fees or appropriations. According VDH, fees alone would likely be insufficient to the costs of the program given the anticipated low volume of potential applicants and would require an appropriation in fiscal year 2028. These and other costs would be identified in the study required in Sec. 4.

¹ *The Joint Fiscal Office (JFO) is a nonpartisan legislative office dedicated to producing unbiased fiscal analysis – this fiscal note is meant to provide information for legislative consideration, not to provide policy recommendations.*

The full fiscal note history is available on the fiscal tab of the bill page on the General Assembly website and can be pulled up through a bill number search on the JFO page.