

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6630**  
**BILL NUMBER: SB 7**

**NOTE PREPARED: Feb 9, 2021**  
**BILL AMENDED: Feb 4, 2021**

**SUBJECT:** Forensic Nurses.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Crider  
**FIRST SPONSOR:** Rep. Olthoff

**BILL STATUS:** As Passed Senate

**FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL**  
**DEDICATED**  
**FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill specifies requirements that a registered nurse must meet in order to practice as a forensic nurse. The bill requires biennial continuing education for a forensic nurse. The bill also specifies that an individual who is practicing as a forensic nurse on June 30, 2021 is not required to meet the new education requirements for practice as a forensic nurse.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2021.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** The State Board of Nursing and Professional Licensing Agency (PLA) may experience a minor increase in workload to develop rules and forms for forensic nurses, approve forensic nursing educational programs, as well as review materials submitted by applicants for the forensic nurse credential. These actions are within the Board and PLA's routine administrative functions and should be able to be implemented with no additional appropriations.

**Explanation of State Revenues:** The bill is not expected to impact revenue from nursing license fees, as the bill does not establish a state certification fee for forensic nurses. However, to the extent that the Board of Nursing finds registered nurses to be practicing forensic nursing in violation of the bill's requirements, the Board could take disciplinary action that may impact General Fund revenue. Possible penalties include issuing fines of up to \$1,000 or suspend or revoke the violators license, resulting in foregone license fee revenue. License fees for registered nurses are \$50 biennially.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Professional Licensing Agency, State Board of Nursing.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** Legislative Services Agency, *Indiana Handbook of Taxes, Revenues, and Appropriations*, FY 2020.

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