

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

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6630

BILL NUMBER: SB 7

NOTE PREPARED: Mar 16, 2021

BILL AMENDED: Mar 11, 2021

SUBJECT: Forensic Nurses.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Crider

FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Olthoff

BILL STATUS: As Passed House

**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 provides that a forensic nurse who is practicing as a forensic nurse on June 30, 2021, is not required to meet the biennial forensic nursing education requirements until June 30, 2023.

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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