## **Department of Fiscal Services**

Maryland General Assembly

## FISCAL NOTE Revised

Senate Bill 495 (Senator Hollinger) Economic and Environmental Affairs

Referred to Environmental Matters

## **State Board of Nursing - Regulatory Authority**

This amended bill establishes a specified date by which a nursing staff agency must renew its registration with the Board of Nursing. If a nursing staff agency fails to renew, it must immediately stop referring personnel to health care facilities.

The bill authorizes the board to impose civil fines on licensees (nurses) who fail to renew their licenses within 30 days after the expiration date, and who engage in the practice of nursing. The fine is specified to be \$5 for each day the violation continues, up to a maximum of \$500. All such fine revenue is required to be paid to the general fund.

In addition, the bill establishes, with a specified exception, that the proceedings, records, and files of the board are not discoverable and are not admissible in evidence in a civil action. The board is allowed to disclose any information contained in their proceedings, records, and files to any health occupation regulatory board in Maryland or another state if requested in writing.

## **Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. The bill codifies current practices relating to the renewal of registrations for nursing staff agencies. The bill's additional requirements can be handled with the existing budgeted resources of the Board of Nursing. Any fine revenue directed to the general fund is assumed to be minimal.

Local Effect: None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Board of Nursing), Department of Fiscal Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 26, 1996

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