

**Department of Legislative Services**  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2005 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

House Bill 1025 (Delegates Hammen and Frank)  
 Health and Government Operations

**State Board of Physicians - Invasive Cardiovascular Professionals**

This bill requires the Board of Physicians to register a cardiovascular invasive specialist (CIS). A CIS may: (1) perform or review a baseline patient assessment; (2) evaluate patient response to diagnostic or interventional maneuvers and medications; (3) provide patient care and drug administration commonly used in the cardiac catheterization laboratory; (4) provide scrub assistance; (5) operate imaging, physiologic monitoring, or recording equipment; (6) perform circulating duties; and (7) perform precardiac and postcardiac catheterization activities and procedures. A CIS may only perform these functions under the supervision of a licensed physician. Failure of a licensed physician to properly supervise a registered CIS is unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine. The board must adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of the bill.

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Board of Physician special fund expenditures could increase by \$26,400 in FY 2006. Board special fund revenues could increase by \$30,000 in FY 2007 from new registration fees. Future year estimates reflect annualization, inflation, and assume 10% growth in the number of registrations.

(in dollars)	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
SF Revenue	\$0	\$30,000	\$3,000	\$33,000	\$6,000
SF Expenditure	26,400	29,200	30,700	32,400	34,300
Net Effect	(\$26,400)	\$800	(\$27,700)	\$600	(\$28,300)

*Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect*

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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## Analysis

**Current Law:** The board does not regulate these types of specialists.

If a physician is found to be guilty of unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine, the board may reprimand the physician, place the physician on probation, or suspend or revoke the physician's license.

**Background:** CISs assist physicians with cardiac catheterization procedures in which a small tube, or catheter, is guided through the patient's blood vessels into the heart. The procedure is used to determine if a blockage exists in the blood vessels that supply the heart muscle and can help diagnose other problems. Part of the procedure may involve balloon angioplasty or stenting, which treat blockages of blood vessels or heart valves, without the need for heart surgery.

CISs prepare patients for cardiac catheterization and interventions, and monitor blood pressure and heart rate using electrocardiogram (ECG/EKG) equipment during procedures and the implantation of pacemakers.

Several colleges and universities around the nation have two-year programs to train individuals to perform cardiovascular invasive procedures.

**State Fiscal Effect:** Board of Physician special fund expenditures could increase by an estimated \$26,442 in fiscal 2006, which accounts for the bill's October 1, 2005 effective date. This estimate reflects the cost of hiring one part-time administrative officer to assist in promulgating regulations, handle inquiries from potential applicants, collect and verify applications, process registrations, and maintain a database of all registered individuals. It includes a salary, fringe benefits, one-time start-up costs, and ongoing operating expenses.

Salary and Fringe Benefits	\$17,952
Operating Expenses	<u>8,490</u>
<b>Total FY 2006 State Expenditures</b>	<b>\$26,442</b>

Future year expenditures reflect: (1) a full salary with 4.6% annual increases and 3% employee turnover; and (2) 1% annual increases in ongoing operating expenses.

Board special fund revenues could increase by \$30,000 in fiscal 2007 as registrations begin. This estimate assumes the board would charge a \$150 registration fee and that 200 individuals would apply for registration. Future year estimates reflect biennial renewals and assume 20 new applications annually.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** The Society of Invasive Cardiovascular Professionals, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Board of Physicians), Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 15, 2005  
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