LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 79TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 16, 2005

TO: Honorable Jane Nelson, Chair, Senate Committee on Health & Human Services

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Deputy Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **SB423** by Carona (Relating to the issuance of a limited license to practice medicine to certain applicants.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

This bill would amend the Occupations Code relating to the issuance of a limited license to practice medicine to certain applicants. The Board of Medical Examiners would be required to adopt rules relating to this limited license, as well as process the applications and issue/renew the licenses. There would be one-time direct costs associated with implementing this legislation which include: Texas Online changes to accommodate the new license type, preparing articles for the newsletter, adding information to the agency website to promote public awareness as well as other operating costs. It is assumed that any additional costs associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could be reasonably absorbed within current resources.

The University of Texas system estimates that some faculty members would fall into the six-month probationary category each year, thereby precluding patient billing and any sources of revenue to cover their salaries and associated expenses. The University of Texas System states there will be an impact to other funds outside the treasury dealing with physician charges to patients. It is assumed that any additional costs associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could be reasonably absorbed within current resources.

This bill would take effect September 1, 2005.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 503 Board of Medical Examiners, 720 The University of Texas System Administration
LBB Staff: JOB, CL, MW, NV