

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 87TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 17, 2021

TO: Honorable Donna Campbell, Chair, Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs & Border Security

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB548 by Frank (Relating to the licensing of certain military veterans as health care providers to practice in underserved areas.), **As Engrossed**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill amends the Occupations Code as it relates to the licensing of health care providers. The bill directs the Texas Medical Board and the Texas Board of Nursing to issue Texas licenses to veterans of the armed forces who possess licensure in good standing from another state and that meet additional specific criteria related to their military service and criminal records. The bill restricts the practice of physicians or nurses licensed under these provisions to health professional shortage areas or medically underserved communities as defined in statute.

The Texas Medical Board and the Board of Nursing anticipate that implementing the provisions within the bill would increase licensure activity which could result in additional costs to the agency. It is assumed that these costs associated with the bill's licensing of certain military veterans as health care providers to practice in underserved areas could be absorbed using existing agency resources.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 503 Texas Medical Board, 507 Texas Board of Nursing

LBB Staff: JMc, SLE, EJ, AKI, MB