



# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

## FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 261

PRINTERS NO. 273

PRIME SPONSOR: Readshaw

### COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2012/13	FY 2013/14
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Professional Licensure Augmentation Account	\$0	See "Fiscal Impact"

**SUMMARY:** Provides the 29 licensing boards and commissions within the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs with additional authority to assist in collecting unpaid fines. This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

**ANALYSIS:** This legislation amends Act 48 of 1993 to provide specific authority to all 29 licensing boards and commissions within the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs (BPOA) to suspend or revoke a license for failure to pay a fine or cost assessed as a result of a disciplinary proceeding.

The legislation also provides a new mechanism for collecting unpaid fines of \$1,000 or more. Unpaid fines, and any associated costs and interest, that total \$1,000 or more may be filed by the licensing boards and commissions, or the Office of Attorney General acting on their behalf, as a judgment (lien) upon the licensee in the Court of Common Pleas where the licensee is located. The judgment would be reported on the licensee's credit report and could be collected by action of the court. This process is the same as currently used for collection of unpaid criminal fines and taxes.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** This legislation would have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. As of March, there is approximately \$3 million in uncollected fines due to the BPOA. According to the Department of State, any minimal costs that may be incurred in collecting fees and interest will be offset by the collection of the costs, fees, fines and interest. Under the legislation, costs will be reimbursed as they relate to prosecution, collecting fees, fines/penalties and other associated costs that could be levied against the licensee.

**PREPARED BY:** Tim Rodrigo  
House Appropriations Committee (R)

**DATE:** May 6, 2013

*Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.*