

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NUMBER: HB 678

SHORT TITLE: Acupuncturist Reimbursement

SPONSOR(S): Rep. Sherrill

FISCAL IMPACT					
	Yes (X)	No ()	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 1999-00</u>	<u>FY 2000-01</u>	<u>FY 2001-02</u>	<u>FY 2002-03</u>	<u>FY 2003-04</u>
REVENUES					
Acupuncturist Licensing Board	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150
EXPENDITURES			<u>* See Actuarial Note *</u>		
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: Acupuncturist Licensing Board.					
EFFECTIVE DATE: This act becomes effective January 1, 2000. Sections 1, 2, and 3 apply to plans issued, amended, or renewed on or after that date. Section 5 applies to treatment and services provided on or after January 1, 2000.					

BILL SUMMARY: The bill provides that insurance companies must reimburse acupuncturists to the same extent they would reimburse physicians for the same service. It also increases the additional fee imposed for a late renewal of an acupuncturist license by \$25.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY: All potential costs to the state health plan are covered in the actuarial note. The only remaining portion of the bill that would have a fiscal impact is the change in the late renewal fee. The Chairman of the Board of Acupuncturists reports that there are approximately 130 licensed acupuncturists. On average, the board receives six (6) late renewal applications per year. The bill increases the late renewal fee by \$25.00 (from \$75.00 to \$100.00). Assuming the board continues to receive six late renewal applications per year, the bill increases the licensing board's income by approximately \$150.00 per year (\$25.00 x 6 late fees).

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION 733-4910
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DATE: Monday, May 10, 1999



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