



# NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2025 Session

## Legislative Fiscal Note

**Short Title:** Physician Assistant Licensure Compact.  
**Bill Number:** Senate Bill 190 (Second Edition)  
**Sponsor(s):** Sen. Ralph Hise, Sen. Mark Hollo, and Sen. Amy S. Galey

### SUMMARY TABLE

#### FISCAL IMPACT OF S.B.190, V.2

	<u>FY 2025-26</u>	<u>FY 2026-27</u>	<u>FY 2027-28</u>	<u>FY 2028-29</u>	<u>FY 2029-30</u>
<b>State Impact</b>					
General Fund Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Less Expenditures	-	-	-	-	-
<b>General Fund Impact</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>NET STATE IMPACT</b>	-	-	-	-	-

**TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS:** See Technical Considerations Section

### FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Senate Bill 190, Physician Assistant Licensure Compact, would enter North Carolina into the Physician Assistant Licensure Compact (Compact) to provide a voluntary process for licensed physician assistants to obtain authorization to practice in any Compact member state. The primary fiscal impact of S.B. 190 is on the North Carolina Medical Board (Board), whose budget and operations are outside of the State treasury, so the bill will not impact the State budget.

### FISCAL ANALYSIS

S.B. 190 would enter North Carolina into the Compact. The Compact's purpose is to enhance the portability of license to practice as a physician assistant (PA) while protecting the safety of patients. This is proposed to be accomplished via the mutual recognition of qualified licenses by states participating in the Compact. This recognition is referred to as Compact privilege and is recognized as being equivalent to licensure in participating states. The Compact is administered by the PA Licensure Compact Commission (Commission), which is composed of representatives of each member state and other delegates elected or appointed to act on their behalf.

The primary impact of the bill would be on the Board, which operates outside of the State treasury, and is funded by the licensing fees paid by applicants. The Board is authorized by the Compact to charge a fee for granting Compact privilege. PAs seeking licensure in North Carolina



currently pay an initial fee of \$230, and an annual fee of \$140 thereafter. This bill would codify those amounts and include language to extend the fees to PAs seeking to practice through Compact privilege.

Licensed PAs must apply through the Commission to practice in a state where they do not hold a license (Remote State) and request Compact privilege for each Compact member state where they want to provide services. Applicants are required to have and retain a qualifying PA license to retain privilege in Remote States.

Entering into the Compact would increase the workload of the Board. PAs for whom North Carolina is a Remote State would be subject to the Board's regulatory authority. The Board would be required to participate in the Compact's data system to provide information about the license status and adverse actions imposed against PA licensees and applicants.

In order to fund its operations, the Commission may levy an annual assessment from each member state and impose fees on PAs to use Compact privilege. The amount of the fees and of the annual assessment is to be determined by the Commission during their future internal rule-making process. The Commission is currently receiving funding from grants, including from the American Academy of Physician Associates and a federal grant from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration passed through the Federation of State Medical Boards to support license portability.

## **TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS**

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The Compact takes effect once seven states pass legislation to enter the Compact; currently 15 states have passed such legislation. More than seven states have opted in, but the Commission is still in the process of implementing the Compact and developing its administration. The Commission stated in April of 2024 an anticipated timeline of 18-24 months for the Compact to be operational. This bill would become law nine months after passage.

## **DATA SOURCES**

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NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL BOARD

PA LICENSURE COMPACT COMMISSION

PA COMPACT FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES, JANUARY 7, 2025

FEDERATION OF STATE MEDICAL BOARDS

## **LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE – PURPOSE AND LIMITATIONS**

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This document is an official fiscal analysis prepared pursuant to Chapter 120 of the General Statutes and rules adopted by the Senate and House of Representatives. The estimates in this analysis are based on the data, assumptions, and methodology described in the Fiscal Analysis section of this document. This document only addresses sections of the bill that have projected direct fiscal impacts on State or local governments and does not address sections that have no projected fiscal impacts.



## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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Questions on this analysis should be directed to the Fiscal Research Division at (919) 733-4910.

## **ESTIMATE PREPARED BY**

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April 7, 2025



**Signed copy located in the NCGA Principal Clerk's Offices**