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BILL ANALYSIS

Health Care Committee

SB 5903

Brief Description: Changing physician license fees.

Sponsors: By Senators Winsley, Franklin, Costa and Thibaudeau.

Brief Summary of Bill

· Raises the \$25 annual surcharge on physician licenses to no more than \$35 to fund the Impaired Physicians Program.

Hearing Date: 3/29/01

Staff: John Welsh (786-7133).

Background:

A statutory surcharge of \$25 is added to a licensing fee or license renewal fee of physicians for financing the Impaired Physician Program. The Medical Quality Assurance Commission is required by law to enter into a contract with a professional entity which provides evaluation and treatment services to physicians impaired as a result of chemical abuse or mental illness to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to their patients.

Summary of Bill:

The statutory surcharge of \$25 for financing the Impaired Physician Program is raised to no more than \$35.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.