

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

LS 6885
BILL NUMBER: SB 180

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 16, 2026
BILL AMENDED: Feb 10, 2026

SUBJECT: Various Health Care Matters.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Brown L
FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Goss-Reaves

BILL STATUS: As Passed House

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
 X DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: *Home Health Aides:* This bill eliminates a requirement that home health aide competency evaluation program training include at least 75 hours of training and 16 hours of classroom training before supervised practical training.

Dentistry Matters: This bill amends the educational requirements for dental hygienists. It amends the requirements for administration of nitrous oxide by a dental hygienist. It allows the State Board of Dentistry to establish additional requirements for an applicant who has failed the licensure examination at least three times.

Respiratory Care: This bill amends the licensure and temporary permit requirements for respiratory care practitioners.

Hurt on Duty Medical Coverage: This bill provides that a current or former police officer or firefighter (first responder) may recover medical benefits from the first responder's employer for an employment related injury or illness without first proceeding with a worker's compensation claim. It provides that if a first responder pursues a worker's compensation claim for medical benefits and the claim is withdrawn or denied, the first responder is not precluded from recovering medical benefits from the employer.

Contaminated Semen: This bill repeals the penalty in Title 16 concerning the crime of transferring contaminated semen. (Current statute contains a transferring of contaminated body fluids crime in Title 35 remains in law.)

Effective Date: Upon passage; September 1, 2025 (retroactive); July 1, 2026.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Workload:* The bill's requirements will increase workload for the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH), State Board of Dentistry, and the Professional Licensing Agency (PLA), but should be able to be implemented using existing staffing and resources. *[The IDOH's administrative expenditures are currently paid from the Tobacco Master Settlement Fund, a dedicated fund.]*

Interim Study Committee: The bill urges the Legislative Council to assign to the appropriate study committee the task of studying fraud in the health care system, including Medicaid and local or state health programs. If the committee were to hold additional meetings to address this topic, there would be additional expenditures for legislator per diem and travel reimbursement for the committee members. Any additional expenditures must be within the committee's budget, which is established by the Legislative Council.

Additional Information:

Respiratory Care: The PLA may need to update their website regarding the changes in the exam for applicants, to provide updates for the temporary license, and to notify stakeholders via electronic mail of these changes. The National Board for Respiratory Care revised their examination for credentialing which will become effective in January 2027. The current Clinical Simulation Examination portion will be available through December 31, 2027.

Home Health Aides: The bill will increase workload for the IDOH to update the number of hours included in a home health aide competency evaluation program.

Dentistry Matters: The State Board of Dentistry and PLA would see an increase in workload to establish the bill's requirements. The PLA would assist the Board in developing new, or modifying existing, rules. It is likely the Board and the PLA would be able to implement these changes within their current level of resources.

Contaminated Semen: This provision would have little to no effect on the Department of Correction (DOC) offender population because no one has been convicted of transferring contaminated semen (IC 16-41-14-17) as a Level 5 or Level 4 felony since FY 2015.

Explanation of State Revenues: *Respiratory Care:* This provision may increase the number of initial or temporary license applicants in future years. However, any change in fee revenues is likely to be small.

Dentistry Matters: There may be a slight increase in license revenue for both dentists and dental hygienists as a result of the bill. However, any increase in license revenue collected is likely to be minimal. License revenue for both dentists and dental hygienists totaled \$135,335 in FY 2025.

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Hurt on Duty Medical Coverage:* The bill may increase expenditures for certain local units to cover former police officers or firefighters who were injured or become ill in the line of duty. Expenditure increases may be mitigated through successful disposition against a liable third-party by the local unit and/or insurance claims.

Additional Information:

Hurt on Duty Medical Coverage: Local units that elect to have workers' compensation insurance for medical benefits would have to pay the costs of care if the claim is withdrawn or denied. The local unit's general fund is responsible for compensation of medical, surgical, pharmaceutical, nursing, and therapeutic care costs.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Indiana Department of Health; Department of Correction; State Board of Dentistry; Professional Licensing Agency; Legislative Council.

Local Agencies Affected: Cities, towns, townships, special service districts, fire protection districts; provider units.

Information Sources: Legislative Services Agency, *Indiana Handbook of Taxes, Revenues, and Appropriations*, FY 2025; Department of Corrections; Indiana Gateway for Government Units, 2023 Annual Financial Reports, <https://gateway.ifionline.org/public/download.aspx>; Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2023 Annual Survey of Jails Data Series, <https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/NACJD/series/7>; www.nbrc.org/examination-changes-coming-in-2027-new-details-added.

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