

***Health Care***

***HB 1093***

***Brief Description:*** *Changing physician license fees.*

***Sponsors:*** *Representatives Schual-Berke, Ballasiotes, Cody, Campbell, Ruderman, Skinner, Conway, Edmonds, Kenney and Kagi.*

***Brief Summary of Bill***

- *Raises the \$25 annual surcharge on physician licenses to \$35 to fund the Impaired Physicians Program.*

***Hearing Date:*** *1/25/01*

***Staff:*** *John Welsh (786-7133).*

***Background:***

*A statutory surcharge of \$25 is added to a licensing fee or license renewal fee of physicians and physician assistants to finance the Impaired Physician Program. The Medical Quality Assurance Commission is required by law to enter into a contract with a professional which provides evaluation and treatment services to physicians and physician assistants 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 \$35, and must be adjusted annually for inflation according to the Consumer Price Index for the Seattle area compiled by the US Department of Labor.*

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

***Appropriation:*** *None.*

***Fiscal Note:*** *Requested on January 16, 2001.*