

**Consideration of Proposed Amendments to 22 Tex. Admin. Code §223.1
Pertaining to Fees**

Summary of Request: Consider proposal of proposed amendments to 22 Tex. Admin. Code §223.1, pertaining to *Fees*.

Background: During the past legislative session, the Legislature approved the Board's budget request for 11 new full time employee positions; an additional \$300,000 litigation costs; and restoration of the 5% budget cut that was required by the Legislature for all agencies during the 2010-11 biennium. The appropriation of these monies, however, is contingent upon the Board assessing or increasing fees sufficient to generate an additional \$2,419,030 during the 2012-13 biennium. In order to meet this demand, Staff has determined that an increase in the renewal fee for registered nurses (RNs) is necessary. Currently, the renewal fee for an RN license is \$65. The proposed increase raises the renewal fee to \$73. Staff anticipates that this \$8 fee increase, coupled with the Board's normal revenue growth, will be sufficient to meet the Legislature's budget requirements. The proposed rule amendment necessary to effectuate this fee increase is attached as Attachment "A". Under the proposal, the increase will only affect the renewal of an RN license. There will be no change in the fee for the renewal of an LVN license. If the Board approves the proposed rule amendment, Staff anticipates that the amendment could be effective as early as October 9, 2011.

Board Action: Move to approve proposed amendments to 22 Tex. Admin. Code §223.1, pertaining to *Fees*, with authority for General Counsel to make editorial changes as necessary to clarify rule and Board intent and to comply with the formatting requirements of the *Texas Register*. If no negative comments and no request for a public hearing are received, move to adopt proposed amendments to 22 Tex. Admin. Code §223.1, pertaining to *Fees*, as proposed.

Attachment "A"

§223.1. Fees.

(a) The Texas Board of Nursing has established reasonable and necessary fees for the administration of its functions.

(1) - (2) (No change.)

(3) Licensure renewal (each biennium):

(A) Registered Nurse (RN): ~~\$73~~[\$65]; and

(B) (No change.)

(4) -(26) (No change.)

(b) (No change.)