

SB1096 FACT SHEET

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL WORKFORCE DATA REPOSITORY

Background

Unlike a number of other states, Arizona lacks a consistent, affordable and easily accessible source of information concerning its health care workforce. Such information is vital for planning and development by healthcare employers, assessing educational capacity and curriculum and evaluating loan repayment and other programs designed to address workforce shortages. HB2197 was enacted in 2018 and directed five health professional boards (MDs, Dos, RNs and behavioral health professionals) to collect work force data from applicants and those renewing licenses and certificates.

SB1096 will designate the Department of Health Services as the repository for the information collected from the Boards, provide for \$50,000 in “seed money” to begin the program and provide for a process to protect the security and confidentiality of the professionals who provide information.

Why does this require an appropriation?

Although the legislation sets up a revolving money to utilize appropriations, grants, gifts and fees collected from those ordering data from the Department, a small appropriation is necessary to coordinate document collection with the Boards and create a secure system for collection.

Will information provided by professionals be protected?

The legislation requires that the Department maintain the privacy and security of the data and none shall be released with personally identifiable information.