

Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

PUBLISHED: 1/22/2026 9:37 AM

ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB228

Patron: McNamara

Bill Title: Board of Accountancy; licensing requirements; inactive and emeritus status.

Bill Summary: Directs the Board of Accountancy to establish "Inactive" and "Emeritus" CPA license statuses for licensees who no longer provide services to the public or services to or on behalf of an employer. The bill requires the Board to develop guidelines to provide active and inactive licensees additional clarity governing the manner in which such licensees should reference autobiographical and biographical information with respect to their CPA licensure to remain historically accurate and compliant with the law and relevant regulations. The bill directs the Board of Accountancy to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No

Items Impacted: None

Explanation: N/A

Fiscal Summary: Indeterminate (nongeneral fund only impact) – See Fiscal Analysis Below.

Fiscal Analysis: The fiscal impact of this bill is unknown at this time, however any impact would be only nongeneral fund as this agency is supported by accountancy regulatory fees. The Board of Accountancy (BOA) anticipates there could be more legal challenges from respondents due to the provisions of this bill, which would potentially cause the agency to incur additional legal costs, and may require an additional FTE. Legal costs for a board order challenge typically range from \$5,000 to \$25,000, or more. Currently, the BOA has very few legal challenges that require legal counsel; last fiscal year there was only one that was quickly settled. This same definition was revised in 2024 to allow for the appropriate use of the CPA title, and that change resulted in 45% fewer enforcement cases for “unlicensed use of the title.” Any savings from that action could be reversed by this bill as well, resulting in increased legal counsel costs.

BOA does not anticipate any changes in revenues from this bill as the individual license types would have the same renewal fee. Inactive and active licensees pay the same fee to renew licenses. There are no anticipated fees to support legal challenges.

Other: Identical to HB870.