

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 456 (Delegate Nathan-Pulliam, *et al.*)
Environmental Matters

State Board of Electrologists

This bill authorizes the State Board of Electrologists, on receipt of notice that an electrologist has opened an office, to inspect the office to determine compliance with the board's requirements for an office. The board may discipline the licensee for failing to allow an inspection. An individual who has been on inactive status for at least five years or who has failed to renew the license must pass an examination given by the board, in addition to other existing board requirements, to be reinstated as a licensee. The bill also increases the educational requirements for licensure.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal increase in special fund revenues; no effect on special fund expenditures.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful effect on small businesses as discussed below.

Fiscal Analysis

State Effect: The inspection of new offices and any additional disciplinary cases as a result of this bill could be handled with existing resources. Individuals applying to reinstate their license would have to take an examination and pay the examination fee of \$100. Consequently, special fund revenues for the board would increase. It is anticipated that the number of individuals who would apply for reinstatement would be minimal.

Small Business Effect: Currently, applicants for an electrologist license have to complete a total of 300 hours of education and training. The bill increases the requirement to 600 hours.

As a result, the cost to an applicant for licensure would increase. There are approximately 250 electrologists licensed in Maryland, some of whom may be self-employed. The cost of starting a business in electrology for the self-employed electrologist would increase. To the extent that these added costs act as a barrier to entry, existing electrologists could benefit from less potential competition.

Electrology education programs are generally offered through private career schools in Maryland. The board currently licenses fewer than five programs. These programs could be considered small businesses. As a result of increasing the educational requirements for an electrologist license, revenues for these small business private career schools would increase.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Board of Electrology),
Department of Fiscal Services

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Analysis by: Lina Walker
Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst
(410) 841-3710
(301) 858-3710