

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE  
Revised

House Bill 49 (Chairman. Environmental Matters)

Environmental Matters

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State Board of Dental Examiners

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This bill extends, in accordance with the Maryland Program Evaluation Act (Sunset Review), the termination date of the State Board of Dental Examiners from July 1, 1999 to July 1, 2006, and requires an evaluation of the Board of Dental Examiners on or before July 1, 2005. The bill also adds one consumer member to the board, increasing the total number of members to 15. In addition, the bill (1) requires the board to fund the Dentist Rehabilitation Committee, a committee of the Maryland State Dental Association; (2) requires the board to fund the Dental Hygienist Rehabilitation Committee, a committee of the Maryland Dental Hygienist Association; and (3) requires the Legislative Auditor to audit the accounts and transactions of the Dentist Rehabilitation Committee.

This bill takes effect July 1, 1999.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** State finances for the Board of Dental Examiners would continue in FY 2000. In addition, special fund expenditures would increase \$3,100 annually beginning in FY 2000 as a result of adding one consumer member to the board.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Fiscal Analysis

**Background:** Chapter 449, Acts of 1994 terminated the tenure of the sitting members on the State Board of Dental Examiners, appointed new members to the board (with some limited carryover), and advanced the sunset date for the board from July 1, 2003 to July 1, 1999.

This move was, in part, in response to a report prepared by the then Department of Budget and Fiscal Planning (DBFP) that alleged certain improprieties in the manner in which the board operated. This bill is in response to several of the recommendations made by DBFP in its 1994 report, as well as recommendations made by the Department of Legislative Services in its October 1998 Sunset Review evaluation.

**State Revenues:** State revenues will be maintained because the bill proposes to continue the Board of Dental Examiners. The proposed fiscal 2000 budget assumes \$1,090,000 in special fund revenues for this board.

**State Expenditures:** State expenditures will be maintained because the bill proposes to continue the Board of Dental Examiners. The proposed fiscal 2000 budget includes \$1,090,000 in special fund expenditures for this board. Out-year expenditures are expected to remain relatively constant.

The board currently funds the Dentist Rehabilitation Committee and expenditures associated with this provision are already included in the board's fiscal 2000 budget. Expenditures associated with funding the Dental Hygienist Rehabilitation Committee are assumed to be minimal and able to be handled with existing board resources.

The addition of one consumer member to the board will increase special fund expenditures by an estimated \$3,100 annually beginning in fiscal 2000. This amount assumes attendance at 12 board meetings and 12 Discipline Committee meetings, reimbursement for in-state travel expenses, and dues paid to professional associations. Board members are given a \$100 per-diem allowance for attending meetings, and the Board of Dental Examiners estimates in-state travel expenses for one member at \$120. Yearly association dues are \$550.

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**Information Source(s):** Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Board of Dental Examiners), Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - January 19, 1999  
Inc/jr Revised - House Third Reader - April 2, 1999  
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