

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 575 (The Speaker) (Department of Legislative Services)
Environmental Matters

State Board of Chiropractic Examiners - Sunset Evaluation

The bill extends the sunset date for the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners (the board) from July 1, 2002, to July 1, 2012.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Special fund expenditures would be maintained for the board beyond FY 2002. The proposed FY 2001 budget includes \$389,000 in special fund expenditures for the board. The board's fee revenue is expected to be \$386,000 for FY 2001. Out-year revenues are expected to remain relatively constant based on a biennial licensing cycle.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The board will terminate on July 1, 2002.

Background: The State Board of Chiropractic Examiners is the State regulatory body for the chiropractic profession. The board determines the educational and professional standards for the chiropractic profession and sets and collects certain application, licensing, and educational fees. There are an estimated 660 chiropractors and 380 chiropractic assistants practicing in Maryland.

In 1996 legislation was enacted to require the certification of massage therapists. A Massage Therapy Advisory Committee was established within the board and full regulation of the

massage profession began January 1, 2000. It is estimated that there are a total of 2,000 massage professionals. The advisory committee, under the direction of the board, determines the educational and professional standards for the massage therapy profession and sets and collects certain application, licensing, and educational fees.

The Department of Legislative Services conducted a preliminary sunset evaluation of the board during the 1999 interim. The report had three recommendations: (1) waive the board from a full evaluation; (2) extend the board's sunset date ten years (to July 1, 2012); and (3) require two follow-up reports to be submitted to the Legislative Policy Committee. The preliminary report is due by October 1, 2000, and should discuss the advisory committee's operations and functions as a complaint resolution body for the massage therapy profession. The final report is due by October 1, 2001, and should detail all pertinent information regarding regulating massage therapists for the first full year.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 573 (The President) - Economic and Environmental Affairs.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Office of Health Boards and Commissions), Department of Legislative Services

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