

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 576 (The Speaker) (Department of Legislative Services)
Environmental Matters

State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners - Sunset Extension

This bill extends the sunset date for the State Board of Physical Therapy 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 \$601,000 in special fund expenditures for the board. The board's fee revenue is expected to be \$555,000 for FY 2001. Out-year expenditures and 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 Physical Therapy Examiners is the State regulatory body for the physical therapy profession. The board determines the educational and professional standards for the physical therapy profession and sets and collects certain application, licensing, and educational fees. It is estimated that there are 4,500 physical therapists and 900 physical therapist assistants practicing in Maryland. Although growth in the profession was rapid during most of the last decade, it has slowed in recent years.

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 by ten years to July 1, 2012; and (3)

require the board to submit a follow-up report on its activities in 1999 and 2000 to the Legislative Policy Committee by October 1, 2000.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 572 (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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