

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 547 (Senator Jacobs, *et al.*)

Economic and Environmental Affairs

Environmental Matters

State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists

This bill authorizes the Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists to adopt regulations that authorize a “licensed graduate marriage and family therapist” and a “licensed graduate professional counselor” to practice marriage and family therapy or professional counseling if the individual: (1) is of good moral character; and (2) is at least 18 years old. An individual may practice such counseling without licensure for a limited period of time if the individual: (1) has passed the national professional counselor examination approved by the State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists; (2) is working under the supervision of a licensed practitioner; (3) is fulfilling experiential requirements for licensure; and (4) has a master’s or doctoral degree in a professional counseling or marriage and family field that meets specified educational requirements. An individual who has been approved by the board may represent to the public that the individual is approved to practice and may use the appropriate corresponding titles and initials.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill codifies existing practice/procedure.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The board has the authority to adopt regulations to allow individuals to provide counseling under proper supervision if they meet specified educational requirements.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 522 (Delegate Hubbard) – Environmental Matters.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader – February 20, 2001
ncs/jr Revised – Senate Third Reader – March 24, 2001
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