

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2002 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 755 (Delegate Hubbard)  
Environmental Matters

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**State Board of Chiropractic Examiners - Massage Therapy Advisory Committee**

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This bill expands the membership of the Massage Therapy Advisory Committee within the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners from six to nine members. The members must be appointed by the Governor from a list submitted by the American Massage Therapy Association containing Maryland residents who are members of the Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals or the International Massage Association. The bill provides that one new member must be a certified massage therapist who is an educator and one must be a massage therapy consumer.

The bill also transfers certain powers from the board to the committee and provides that the board may only decline to adopt a recommendation of the committee if the board makes certain specific findings and provides a written explanation.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Minimal increase in expenditures for the Board of Chiropractic Examiners to accommodate the additional committee members, which could be handled with existing resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** The committee consists of six members appointed by the board. Two members must be licensed chiropractors and four must be certified massage therapists.

The committee must develop regulations and a massage therapy code of ethics and make recommendations regarding the regulations and the code of ethics to the board. The committee must develop and recommend to the board the requirements for massage therapist certification and massage practitioner registration. The committee must evaluate credentials of applicants and recommend applicants eligible for certification to the board. The committee must also consider complaints involving certified massage therapists and registered massage practitioners and recommend appropriate disciplinary action to the board. In addition, the committee must evaluate massage therapy education programs for board approval, keep a record of its proceedings, and submit an annual report to the board.

**Additional Comments:** The bill provides for expansion of the committee from six to nine members. However, the bill describes the qualifications for only eight members.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 5, 2002  
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