

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1216 (Delegate Owings)
 Environmental Matters

Health Occupations - Maryland Athletic Trainers Act

This bill requires the Board of Physician Quality Assurance (BPQA) to license and regulate “athletic trainers” and establishes a seven-member Athletic Trainer Advisory Committee within BPQA.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: BPQA special fund revenues could increase by \$60,000 in FY 2003 and special fund expenditures could increase by \$23,900. Future year estimates reflect annualization and biennial licensure renewal.

(in dollars)	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
SF Revenue	\$60,000	\$3,000	\$60,800	\$3,800	\$61,500
SF Expenditure	23,900	26,000	27,100	28,300	29,500
Net Effect	\$36,100	(\$23,000)	\$33,700	(\$24,500)	\$32,000

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal. Small business athletic trainers would be subject to licensure and regulation.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The bill’s provisions do not apply to acupuncturists, chiropractors, nurses, occupational therapists, massage therapists, or physical therapists who are registered or licensed under the Health Occupations Article and who do not represent themselves to the public as athletic trainers.

To qualify for licensure, an applicant must have graduated from an accredited four-year college or university and pass the examination administered by the National Athletic Trainers' Association Board of Certification, Inc. (NATABC). An applicant is exempt from the exam requirement if he or she has a current certification from NATABC or has actively provided full-time athletic trainer services in the State for compensation from January 1, 1997 to the time of application.

BPQA must adopt regulations establishing continuing education requirements for licensure renewal. BPQA has the authority to deny a license, reprimand a licensee, impose restrictions on a licensee, or suspend or revoke a license if the applicant or licensee violates any provisions of the bill. A person who violates any provision of the bill is guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or imprisonment not exceeding six months or both.

Subject to the Maryland Program Evaluation Act, the Maryland Athletic Trainers Act terminates July 1, 2007.

Current Law: Athletic trainers are not regulated by the State. Individual health care providers who provide related services are regulated under their respective health occupation boards.

State Revenues: BPQA special fund revenues could increase by an estimated \$60,000 in fiscal 2003 which reflects the bill's October 1, 2002 effective date. This estimate assumes 400 individuals would be licensed in fiscal 2003 and pay a \$150 licensure fee. Future year estimates: (1) assume 20 additional individuals would be licensed in fiscal 2004 and 5 annually thereafter; and (2) reflect BPQA's biennial licensure renewals.

State Expenditures: BPQA special fund expenditures could increase by an estimated \$23,890 in fiscal 2003 which reflects the bill's October 1, 2002 effective date. This estimate reflects the cost of hiring one part-time administrative officer to provide support to the Athletic Trainer Advisory Committee, process applications, and provide enrollment support. It includes a salary, fringe benefits, one-time start-up costs, and ongoing operating expenses.

Salary and Fringe Benefits	\$16,179
Operating Expenses	<u>7,711</u>
Total FY 2003 State Expenditures	\$23,890

Future year expenditures reflect: (1) full salaries with 3.5% annual increases and 3% employee turnover; and (2) 1% annual increases in ongoing operating expenses.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Board of Physician Quality Assurance), Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 5, 2002
lc/jr

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