

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2003 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Revised**

Senate Bill 734

(Senator Conway)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Health and Government Operations

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**Health Occupations - State Board of Social Work Examiners - License**

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This bill permits a social worker who is licensed in another state, or who possesses social work qualifications in another jurisdiction comparable to what is required in Maryland, and who has an application for licensure in Maryland pending before the Board of Social Work Examiners and meets regulations adopted by the board, to practice social work in Maryland for up to six months.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** This bill would not materially affect State government operations.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential minimal.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** The State offers reciprocity for licensed social workers who meet the requirements for licensure in Maryland and apply for a Maryland license to practice. Practice is not permitted without an approved license; there is no grace period while applications are pending. Social workers licensed in another state are permitted to practice in Maryland if they are responding to an emergency.

**Small Business Effect:** Social workers will be able to begin business while awaiting licensure in Maryland.

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## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 12, 2003  
lc/jr Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 25, 2003

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