

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 635

(Senator Middleton)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Health and Government Operations

Massage Therapists - Certification and Registration - Educational Qualifications

This bill revises the Massage Therapy Advisory Committee's educational requirements for certified massage therapists and registered massage practitioners. An applicant can satisfy the educational requirement if the individual, on or after March 1, 2004, was enrolled in a board-approved school and graduated from that school no later than December 31, 2004.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill's requirements could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Certified massage therapists and registered massage practitioners are regulated by the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners' Massage Therapy Advisory Committee.

A certificate applicant must satisfactorily complete at least 60 credit hours of education at an institution of higher education approved by the board and the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC). An applicant also must complete 500 hours of education in a board-approved program for the study of massage therapy that includes specified content.

A registration applicant must complete 500 hours of education in a board-approved program for the study of massage therapy that includes specified content.

Background: There are 2,167 active certified massage therapists and 216 active registered massage practitioners in Maryland.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 545 (Delegate Levy) – Health and Government Operations.

Information Source(s): Maryland State Department of Education, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Maryland Higher Education Commission, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 16, 2005
mll/ljm Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 29, 2005
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