

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 667 (Senator Harris)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

**Health Occupations - Professional Counselors and Therapists - Definition of
Appraisal**

This bill revises the definition of “appraisal” under the State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists. It repeals a provision allowing the counselor or therapist to administer instruments requiring specialized psychological training if the individual has completed training equivalent to a licensed psychologist qualified to administer the same type of instruments.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The change would not directly affect governmental finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Appraisal is defined as: (1) selecting, administering, scoring, and interpreting instruments designed to assess an individual’s aptitudes, attitudes, abilities, achievements, interests, and personal characteristics; and (2) using nonstandard methods and techniques for understanding human behavior in relation to coping with, adapting to, or changing life situations.

This does not include instruments which require specialized psychological training for administration and interpretation unless the licensed or certified professional counselor

has completed training deemed by the Board of Examiners of Psychologists and the State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists to be equivalent to that of a licensed psychologist who is qualified to administer the same types of instruments.

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 9, 2005
mam/ljm

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