

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2008 Session

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

Senate Bill 848

(Senator Conway)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Health and Government Operations

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**State Board of Social Work Examiners - Membership - Qualifications**

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This bill increases membership of the State Board of Social Work Examiners by adding one licensed social worker who is primarily engaged in social work education at an accredited social work program. The member must be nominated from a list of names submitted by the Deans and Directors of the Maryland Social Work Education Programs.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill would not materially affect governmental finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** The board consists of 11 members – 9 licensed social workers and 2 consumer members. Most of the licensed social worker members have to fit into specific categories such that one has to be • a licensed social work associate; • a licensed graduate social worker at the time of appointment; • a licensed certified social worker; and • a licensed social worker and employee of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. In addition, at least 4 have to be licensed certified social workers-clinical.

**Background:** The board, which like other health occupations boards is special funded, regulates the practice of social work in the State by issuing licenses, setting practice standards, and investigating complaints.

The Board of Dietetic Practice, Board of Nursing, Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists, Board of Physicians, and Board of Examiners of Psychologists each require at least one board member to be an active member of the academic community.

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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 7, 2008  
mcp/ljm Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 21, 2008  
Revised - Enrolled Bill - May 5, 2008

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