

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 391

(Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee)

Health and Government Operations

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

State Board of Dental Examiners - Sunset Extension

This bill extends the termination date of the State Board of Dental Examiners (BDE) by 10 years from July 1, 2021, to July 1, 2031, subject to the evaluation and reestablishment provisions of the Maryland Program Evaluation Act (MPEA).

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Special fund revenues and expenditures for the board are maintained beyond FY 2021. The Governor's proposed FY 2021 budget includes \$2,725,496 for board operations.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: BDE is mandated to protect the public by regulating the practice of dentistry and dental hygiene in Maryland. Among the enumerated duties, the board issues licenses, adopts standards of practice for dentistry, investigates complaints based on alleged violations of regulations and statutes, and disciplines licensees. As of January 2020, approximately 22,200 licenses, certificates, and permits were held by dentists, dental hygienists, and dental radiation technologists in the State.

After the completion of a [sunset report](#) conducted by the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) in 2009, Chapter 542 of 2010 extended the termination date of the board by 10 years from July, 1, 2011, to July 1, 2021.

The board is one of approximately 70 regulatory entities and activities subject to evaluation under MPEA. Entities subject to MPEA may be evaluated by DLS only as directed by specified entities or by legislation. Most such entities are subject to termination, including the board, which is scheduled to terminate July 1, 2021. Accordingly, the evaluation process is better known as sunset review.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: SB 306 (Chair, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Health; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 3, 2020
an/jc Third Reader - March 1, 2020

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