

Department of Legislative Services  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2022 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
 First Reader

House Bill 830 (Delegate R. Lewis)  
 Health and Government Operations

State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists - Physician Members - Repeal

This bill removes the two physician members of the State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists. The terms of the two physician members currently serving on the board must terminate June 30, 2022. **The bill takes effect June 1, 2022.**

Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** Board special fund expenditures decrease by an estimated \$1,500 annually beginning in FY 2023. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
SF Expenditure	(1,500)	(1,500)	(1,500)	(1,500)	(1,500)
Net Effect	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500

*Note: ( ) = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate increase; (-) = indeterminate decrease*

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

Analysis

**Current Law:** Generally, an individual must be licensed by the State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists to provide hearing aid services, practice audiology, practice speech-language pathology, or practice music therapy in Maryland.

The board comprises 15 members: (1) three licensed audiologists; (2) three licensed speech-language pathologists; (3) two physicians; (4) two consumer members; (5) three licensed hearing aid dispensers; and (6) two music therapists.

The physician members must be voting members of the board, except on proposals that expand or restrict the practice of audiology or speech-language pathology. A physician member must be licensed in Maryland, hold a certificate of qualification from the American Board of Otolaryngology, and currently practice in the State. The physician members are appointed by the Governor, with the advice of the Secretary of Health, from a list of names submitted by the Maryland Society of Otolaryngology.

In accordance with the budget of the board, each board member is entitled to compensation and reimbursement for expenses at a rate determined by the board.

**State Expenditures:** Board special fund expenditures decrease by \$1,500 annually beginning in fiscal 2023. This estimate reflects a reduction in expenses for per diems for the two physician members. The board's current per diem rate is \$75, and the board has 10 meetings annually.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 22, 2022  
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