

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2023 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**First Reader**

Senate Bill 730

(Chair, Finance Committee)(By Request - Departmental -  
Health)

Finance

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**State Board of Social Work Examiners - Sunset Extension**

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This departmental bill extends the termination date for the State Board of Social Work Examiners by three years to July 1, 2027, subject to the evaluation and reestablishment provisions of the Maryland Program Evaluation Act (MPEA). **The bill takes effect July 1, 2023.**

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Special fund revenues and expenditures for the board are maintained through FY 2027.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** The Maryland Department of Health has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). The Department of Legislative Services (DLS) concurs with this assessment.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law/Background:** In general, an individual must be licensed by the State Board of Social Work Examiners to practice social work in Maryland. Each license expires every two years, after which the licensee must pay a renewal fee, submit a renewal application, submit satisfactory evidence of compliance with any continuing education requirements, and otherwise be entitled to be licensed.

The board comprises 12 members, including 1 licensed bachelor social worker, 1 licensed master social worker, 1 licensed certified social worker, 4 licensed certified social workers-clinical, 1 licensed social worker employed by the Department of Human Services, 1 licensed social worker who is primarily engaged in social work education, and 2 consumer members.

The board is one of approximately 60 regulatory entities and activities subject to termination unless reauthorized periodically through statute. Under MPEA, these entities may also be subject to an evaluation by the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability (OPEGA) within DLS prior to their termination. However, OPEGA may conduct an evaluation only if directed by specified entities or by legislation. The board is scheduled to terminate July 1, 2024; OPEGA was not asked to conduct an evaluation prior to its termination. Accordingly, the board has requested reauthorizing legislation.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 28, 2023

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## **ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES**

**TITLE OF BILL:** State Board of Social Work Examiners – Sunset Extension

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 730

**PREPARED BY:** Board of Social Work Examiners

### **PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING**

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

**WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESS**

**OR**

**WILL HAVE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESSES**

### **PART B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS**

The proposal will have no economic impact.