

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2023 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

Senate Bill 727

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

Finance

Health and Government Operations

State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners - Sunset Extension

This departmental bill extends the termination date for the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners by one year to July 1, 2025, subject to the evaluation and reestablishment provisions of the Maryland Program Evaluation Act (MPEA). **The bill takes effect July 1, 2023.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Special fund revenues and expenditures for the board are maintained through FY 2025.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). The Department of Legislative Services (DLS) concurs with this assessment. (The attached assessment does not reflect amendments to the bill.)

Analysis

Current Law/Background: The practice of physical therapy in Maryland is regulated by State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners. The board was created by the General Assembly in 1947 and is housed within MDH. The mission of the board is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all Marylanders through the promotion and oversight of the Physical Therapy Practice Act. The board comprises eight members:

five licensed physical therapists; one licensed physical therapy assistant; and two consumers.

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.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has been introduced within the last three years. See SB 209 of 2022.

Designated Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 28, 2023
js/jc Third Reader - March 16, 2023
Revised - Amendment(s) - March 16, 2023

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ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

TITLE OF BILL: State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners – Sunset Extension

BILL NUMBER: SB 727

PREPARED BY: Board of Physical Therapy 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.