



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 333

PRINTERS NO. 1445

PRIME SPONSOR: Killion

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2010/11	FY 2011/12
General Fund	\$0	\$0
State Board of Osteopathic Medicine Restricted Revenue Account	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Establishes a licensure requirement for genetic counselors. This legislation will take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation amends the Osteopathic Medical Practice Act to require a license in order to practice genetic counseling. The following are major provisions of the legislation:

1. Beginning two years after the bill's effective date, no one may hold themselves out to the public as a genetic counselor or practice genetic counseling unless licensed by the State Board of Medicine or the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine.
2. Defines a genetic counselor's scope of practice as well as the prohibitions.
3. To be licensed, one must be at least 21 years of age, be of good moral character, hold a master's or doctoral degree in human genetics or genetic counseling from an accredited educational program or have met the requirements for certification by the American Board of Genetic Counselors (ABGC) or the American Board of Medical Genetics (ABMG), and have passed the ABGC certification examination for genetic counselors or the ABMG certification examination for medical geneticists.
4. A "grandfather provision" is included. For a period of three years from the bill's effective date, a person with a master's or higher degree in genetics and at least three years experience working as a genetic counselor, or a person with a bachelor's degree in genetics and at least ten years experience working as a genetic counselor, may obtain licensure without passing the ABGC or ABMG examination.
5. All license and application fees shall be established by the board through regulation.

6. The State Board of Medicine shall establish continuing education requirements for licensees through regulation.

FISCAL IMPACT: According to the Department of State, estimated personnel and operating start-up costs for the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine to meet the mandates of this legislation would total \$1,789. These costs would be offset by an approximate annual licensing fee of \$60 to the approximate 30 trained genetic counselors in the Commonwealth that fall under the purview of the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine. This legislation will have no adverse impact on the General Fund.

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: April 28, 2011

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.