



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 816

PRINTERS NO. 1853

PRIME SPONSOR: Grove

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2010/11	FY 2011/12
Professional Licensure Augmentation Account	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Clarifies the supervised experience requirements for clinical social workers, marriage and family therapists and professional counselors, allows more experienced licensed social workers to qualify for the clinical social work license, allows more marriage and family therapists and professional counselors to qualify for licensure, and reduces the hours of experience required for marriage and family therapists and professional counselors. This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation would amend the Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors Act (Act 39 of 1987), to do the following:

- Deletes the specified number of years for licensure as a clinical social worker (CSW), marriage and family therapist (MFT) or professional counselor (PC) and expresses the requirement in hours
- Allows an Academy of Certified Social Workers (ACSW) certification issued prior to Jan. 2001 to substitute for the 3,000 hours of supervised experience required for the CSW license. Candidates must still pass the CSW examination.
- Allows MFTs and PCs with less-than 48-credit master's degrees to qualify for the license provided the degree was granted on or before June 30, 2009. Candidates must still complete 60 total credits and pass the MFT or PC examination.
- Reduces the hours of supervised experience required for the MFT and PC license from 3,600 to 3,000 hours.

FISCAL IMPACT: This legislation would have no adverse impact on Commonwealth funds.

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: June 27, 2011

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