



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

SENATE BILL NO. 990

PRINTERS NO. 1215

PRIME SPONSOR: Browne

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2014/15	FY 2015/16
State Board of Medicine Restricted Account	\$0	\$0
State Board of Osteopathic Medicine Restricted Account	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Amends the Acupuncture Licensure Act (Act 2 of 1986) to enable acupuncturists to treat patients seeking routine wellness treatments without the requirement of a medical diagnosis and provides for liability coverage. This legislation would take effect in 90 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation would add subsection (c) to Section 3.1 (relating to medical diagnosis by a licensed physician, dentist or podiatrist) to remove the requirement for medical diagnosis if the patient presents himself or herself without symptoms of a condition.

This legislation would add Section 3.2 (relating to liability coverage) to require an acupuncturist to obtain and maintain professional liability insurance coverage of at least \$1 million per occurrence or claims made. Acceptable evidence of coverage shall be either self-insurance; personally purchased professional liability insurance; or professional liability insurance coverage provided by the acupuncturist's employer or similar type of coverage acceptable to the Board (i.e., State Board of Medicine or State Board of Osteopathic Medicine).

FISCAL IMPACT: This legislation would have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. The Department of State indicates that the expenses for the promulgation of amended regulations and the enforcement of the new professional liability insurance requirement can be absorbed utilizing existing staff and resources.

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: September 15, 2014

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