



# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

## FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 603

PRINTERS NO. 1944

PRIME SPONSOR: Grove

### COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2014/15	FY 2015/16
Professional Licensure Augmentation Account	\$0	\$0

**SUMMARY:** Amends the Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors Act to provide title protection for Marriage and Family Therapists. This legislation would take effect in 120 days.

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

- Establishes that one seat on the 13-member State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors (Board) shall rotate between a marriage and family therapist and a professional counselor.
- Prohibits the use of the title "marriage and family therapist", "family therapist", "marriage therapist" or "couples therapist" unless the individual is a licensed marriage and family therapist.
- Allows current Commonwealth and public or private school employees holding a marriage and family therapist position to continue to use the title without licensure during the time of their employment.
- Permits a person who provides faith-based marriage, family or couples therapy, to continue to use the title without licensure provided the person clearly identifies he or she offers faith-based services and does not represent himself or herself as a licensed marriage and family therapist.

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

**PREPARED BY:** Tim Rodrigo  
House Appropriations Committee (R)

**DATE:** June 25, 2015

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