



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1415

PRINTERS NO. 3450

PRIME SPONSOR: Miccarelli

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2015/16	FY 2016/17
Professional Licensure Augmentation Account	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Amends the Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors Act to require individuals who engage in the independent practice of clinical social work to be licensed clinical social workers. 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:

- Adds definitions for the terms "Client", "Diagnosis" and "Independent practice of clinical social work." Independent practice of clinical social work means the practice of clinical social work by an individual who regulates and is responsible for his or her own practice and treatment procedures and is not affiliated with any other practice, health care facility or government-regulated agency.
- Updates the definitions of "Licensed clinical social worker" and "Licensed social worker". Adds the word "diagnosis" to the definition of "Practice of clinical social work."
- Provides the Board with the authority to allow clinical social workers licensed in other states to practice in PA for up to 60 days as part of a relief effort related to a declared state of emergency.
- Requires individuals who engage in the independent practice of clinical social work to be licensed clinical social workers.

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

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: June 10, 2016

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