

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE  
FISCAL NOTE**

**BILL NO.** Senate Bill 772

**PRINTER NO.** 825

**AMOUNT**

No Fiscal Impact

**FUND**

Professional Licensure Augmentation Account

**DATE INTRODUCED**

May 1, 2015

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Senator Gordner

**DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL**

Senate Bill 772 amends the Professional Psychologists Practice Act to provide for licensure and practice updates.

The legislation expands the “practice of psychology” definition to include diagnosis and treatment of mental, emotional or nervous disability, alcoholism, substance abuse, certain disorders, psychoeducational evaluation, therapy, remediation and consultation.

The State Board of Psychology (Board) may issue a temporary license to an applicant for licensure as a psychologist who holds a similar or current license from another state and whose standards are substantially equivalent to those of Pennsylvania. The Board may refuse a temporary license to a psychologist who is the subject of past or pending disciplinary action in another jurisdiction.

The legislation permits school psychologists to perform in private practice so long as they are employed by a public or private school or Pennsylvania Department of Education regulated educational program and are certified or enrolled in a certification program as an Educational Specialist I or II in school psychology by June 30, 2018.

The bill takes effect in 60 days. The section related to school psychologists takes effect immediately or June 30, 2017, whichever is later.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The Department of State and Board do not anticipate any significant fiscal impact to result from the passage of this legislation.