



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 552

January Session, 2007

Substitute House Bill No. 6109

House of Representatives, April 23, 2007

The Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding reported through REP. STAPLES of the 96th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT REDUCING LICENSE RENEWAL FEES FOR RETIRED DENTISTS AND PHYSICIANS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 19a-88 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2007*):

4 (a) Each person holding a license to practice dentistry, optometry,
5 midwifery or dental hygiene shall, annually, during the month of such
6 person's birth, register with the Department of Public Health, upon
7 payment of the professional services fee for class I, as defined in
8 section 33-182l in the case of a dentist, except as provided in sections
9 19a-88b and 20-113b, the professional services fee for class H, as
10 defined in section 33-182l in the case of an optometrist, five dollars in
11 the case of a midwife, and fifty dollars in the case of a dental hygienist,
12 on blanks to be furnished by the department for such purpose, giving
13 such person's name in full, such person's residence and business
14 address and such other information as the department requests. Each

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Cost	10,000	None
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Revenue Loss	Potential	Potential

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

3,135 individuals currently hold dentist licenses. The number who would avail themselves of the retiree license (for a fee of ten percent of the current \$450 fee) cannot be determined in advance. However, for comparison purposes, about 4% of nurses currently hold retiree licenses. If a similar percentage of dentists avail themselves of this opportunity, a General Fund revenue loss of approximately \$50,625 a year will ensue.

A physician who volunteers at least one hundred hours each year at a public health facility and does not practice otherwise would be eligible to renew his or her license without having to pay a fee, effective October 1, 2007. These professionals currently pay a \$450 license renewal fee. 15,440 individuals currently hold physician licenses. The number who would avail themselves of the retiree license cannot be determined in advance. However, for comparison purposes, should one percent choose to do so an annual revenue loss of approximately \$69,480 would result.

Since the bill is effective 10/1/07, the first year revenue loss associated with the bill would be three-quarters of the amounts discussed above.

The Department of Public Health (DPH) will incur a one-time cost of approximately \$10,000 in FY 08 to reprogram systems to accommodate the new retired dentist and physician licensure categories.

The Out Years

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 10 \$	FY 11 \$	FY 12 \$
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Cost	None	None	None
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Revenue Loss	Potential	Potential	Potential

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6109

AN ACT REDUCING LICENSE RENEWAL FEES FOR RETIRED DENTISTS AND PHYSICIANS.

SUMMARY:

This bill allows (1) retired dentists to renew their licenses at a reduced fee and (2) certain physicians volunteering their services to renew their licenses at no charge.

Under the bill, a dentist who has retired may renew a license for \$45. The license issued by the Department of Public Health (DPH) must indicate that the dentist is retired. DPH must adopt regulations by January 1, 2008 that include (1) a definition of "retired from the profession" as it applies to dentists, (2) procedures for a retired dentist to return to active employment, and (3) appropriate restrictions on retired dentists' scope of practice, including restricting the license to providing volunteer services without monetary compensation.

The bill allows a physician who (1) practices for no fee for at least 100 hours a year at a public health facility and (2) does not otherwise practice medicine, to renew a license without charge. Current law defines a "public health facility" as a hospital, community health center, group home, school, preschool operated by a local board of education or a Head Start program, rest home, health care facility for the handicapped, nursing home, residential care home, mental health facility, home health care agency, homemaker-home health aide agency, substance-abuse treatment facility, infirmary operated by an educational institution, and an intermediate-care facility for the mentally retarded.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference

Yea 28 Nay 0 (03/19/2007)

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 51 Nay 0 (04/10/2007)