

# OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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HB-5444

AN ACT REQUIRING LICENSURE OF ART THERAPISTS.

As Amended by House "A" (LCO 9218)

House Calendar No.: 72

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## **OFA Fiscal Note**

### **State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 20 \$	FY 21 \$
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Cost	13,771	11,921
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits <sup>1</sup>	GF - Cost	4,869	4,869
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Revenue Gain	35,005	31,140

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

### **Explanation**

The bill, which requires the licensure of art therapists by the Department of Public Health (DPH), is anticipated to result in a net General Fund revenue gain of approximately \$16,366 in FY 20 and \$14,351 in FY 21.

The FY 20 State cost of \$18,639 includes total anticipated DPH expenses of \$13,771. This reflects expenditures for a part-time Office Assistant (\$11,821 in both FY 20 and FY 21), equipment (a one-time cost of \$1,800 in FY 20 for a computer, software, and scanner), and associated other expenses (\$150 for printing, postage, and office supplies in FY 20 and \$100 in the following fiscal year). The State Comptroller fringe benefit cost for the part-time Office Assistant position is \$4,869 in both FY 20 and FY 21.

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<sup>1</sup>The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 41.19% of payroll in FY 20 and FY 21.

General Fund revenue of approximately \$35,005 is anticipated in FY 20 from the initial licensure fee of \$315 per application (\$33,705), and from the temporary licensure<sup>2</sup> fee of \$50 (\$1,300). In FY 21, General Fund revenue of approximately \$31,140 is anticipated: \$10,710 from initial licensure, \$20,330 from the annual renewal fee of \$190, and \$100 from temporary licenses. The assumptions that underpin cost and revenue estimates are provided in the “Assumptions” section below.

## **ASSUMPTIONS**

There are 133 credentialed art therapists in Connecticut.<sup>3</sup> Starting on 10/1/19, it is assumed that 80% of credentialed art therapists will immediately seek DPH licensure (107 people), and that the remaining 26 individuals will obtain temporary licenses. The following fiscal year, it is anticipated that those 26 individuals with temporary licenses will apply for initial licensure, along with an average of eight other individuals annually that become credentialed art therapists in Connecticut through the Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc.

House “A,” which makes technical changes to the underlying bill, is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact to the State or municipalities.

### ***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above will continue into the future subject to the number of initial, renewal, and temporary art therapist licenses issued by DPH and cost inflation.

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<sup>2</sup>Temporary licenses are valid for one-year only, and are non-renewable.

<sup>3</sup>Three additional art therapists’ credentials have lapsed.