OLR Bill Analysis
sSB 923

AN ACT ALLOWING BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR REGULATED PROFESSIONALS.

SUMMARY

This bill adds licensed behavior analysts to the list of providers eligible for the professional assistance program for health professionals (currently, the Health Assistance InterVention Education Network (HAVEN); see BACKGROUND). By law, the program is an alternative, voluntary, and confidential rehabilitation program that provides various services to health professionals with a chemical dependency, emotional or behavioral disorder, or physical or mental illness.

The bill increases by $5, from $175 to $180, the annual license renewal fee for behavior analysts. The public health commissioner must (1) certify the amount of revenue received as a result of the fee increase each January, April, July, and October and (2) transfer it to the professional assistance program account. (In 2015, license renewal fees were similarly increased for professions already eligible for the program.)

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2019, and the fee increase applies to renewal applications made on or after that date.

BACKGROUND

Health Professional Assistance Program

By law, before a health professional may enter the program, a medical review committee must (1) determine if he or she is an appropriate candidate for rehabilitation and participation and (2) establish terms and conditions of participation. The program must include mandatory, periodic evaluations of each participant’s ability to practice with skill and safety and without posing a threat to the health
and safety of any person or patient (CGS § 19a-12a).

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute  
Yea  23  Nay  0  (03/08/2019)