

## OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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HB-6835

AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES.

As Amended by House "A" (LCO 9919)

House Calendar No.: 336

Senate Calendar No.: 625

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### ***OFA Fiscal Note***

***State Impact:*** See below

***Municipal Impact:*** None

### ***Explanation***

The bill results in the fiscal impacts described below. Other provisions of the amendment are not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact to the state or municipalities.

**Section 13** requires persons applying to the Department of Public Health (DPH) for licensure as a professional counselor (PC) to submit to fingerprint-based state background checks, resulting in a revenue gain to the General Fund of up to \$35,000 in both FY 24 and FY 25, and a potential revenue gain to the Applicant Fingerprint Card Submission Account of up to \$7,000 in both FY 24 and FY 25, based on the current rate of initial licensure for PCs.<sup>1</sup> The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) conducts state background checks for a fee of \$75 per check, and the revenue that is collected from this fee is deposited into the General Fund. If DESPP conducts fingerprinting of all applicants for PC licensure, with a \$15 fee per person paid to the Applicant Fingerprint Card Submission Account, there would be a potential revenue gain to this Account of up to \$7,000. As third-party

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<sup>1</sup>In FY 22, 459 individuals applied for initial licensure as Professional Counselors.

providers may complete fingerprinting instead of DESPP, Account revenue is reflected as potential.

**Section 18** allows DPH to issue a temporary permit, that is valid for one year and nonrenewable, to a doctoral-level psychology provider who holds a doctoral degree in psychology or the equivalent from an education program for a fee of \$100, which results in a potential minimal General Fund revenue gain, starting on 10/1/23, to the extent that such permits are issued by DPH and associated fees are collected.

House "A" struck the language of the underlying bill, replacing it with language resulting in the fiscal impacts described above.

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

The potential revenue gains described above will continue in the future subject to DESPP conducting state background of checks of professional counselors and the issuance of certain temporary permits by DPH.