



House of Representatives

File No. 664

General Assembly

February Session, 2024

(Reprint of File No. 5)

House Bill No. 5199
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
May 3, 2024

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE SHORTAGE OF ATHLETIC TRAINERS IN THE STATE.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force
2 to study the shortage of athletic trainers in the state. Such study shall
3 include, but need not be limited to, an examination of methods to recruit
4 and retain athletic trainers in the state and evaluate (1) licensure fees for
5 athletic trainers, (2) incentives for persons with a master's degree in
6 athletic training to work as an athletic trainer in the state, (3) workshop
7 opportunities for high school students in the state interested in a career
8 in athletic training, (4) undergraduate athletic training courses and
9 programs offered by institutions of higher education in the state, (5) the
10 funding of scholarships for college students pursuing a degree leading
11 to a career in athletic training, (6) equity in career opportunities and
12 salaries of athletic trainers in the state, and (7) student loan forgiveness
13 opportunities for athletic trainers in the state.

14 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

15 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
16 one of whom shall be a faculty member of a master's degree program in
17 athletic training offered by an institution of higher education in the state,
18 and one of whom shall be an athletic trainer who is employed by the
19 State Board of Education and works at a public high school in the state;

20 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of
21 whom shall be a faculty member of a master's degree program in athletic
22 training offered by an institution of higher education in the state, and
23 one of whom shall be an athletic trainer who works as an independent
24 contractor at a high school in the state;

25 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
26 Representatives, who shall be an athletic trainer employed by a private
27 high school in the state;

28 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be
29 an athletic trainer in a nontraditional setting;

30 (5) Three appointed by the minority leader of the House of
31 Representatives, one of whom shall be an orthopedic physician licensed
32 pursuant to chapter 370 of the general statutes, one of whom shall be an
33 athletic director of a high school in the state and one of whom shall be a
34 representative of an association of athletic trainers in the state;

35 (6) Three appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; one of
36 whom shall be a representative of a conference of interscholastic
37 athletics in the state, one of whom shall be a school nurse who works at
38 a school in the state and one of whom shall be an athletic trainer
39 employed by an institution of higher education in the state; and

40 (7) The Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's
41 designee.

42 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),
43 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member

44 of the General Assembly.

45 (d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later
46 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall
47 be filled by the appointing authority.

48 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro
49 tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force from
50 among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule
51 the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty
52 days after the effective date of this section.

53 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
54 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
55 health shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

56 (g) Not later than January 1, 2025, the task force shall submit a report
57 on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of
58 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
59 health, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
60 statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such
61 report or January 1, 2025, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill establishes a task force to study an athletic trainer shortage, which is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact to the state or municipalities. The administrative staff of the Public Health Committee is tasked with supporting the work of the task force.

House "A" strikes the language of the underlying bill, replaces it with language that does not result in a fiscal impact to the state or municipalities, as described above.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

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OLR Bill Analysis

HB 5199 (as amended by House "A")

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE SHORTAGE OF ATHLETIC TRAINERS IN THE STATE.

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 37 Nay 0 (03/04/2024)