



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: [S.B. 205 of the 129th G.A.](#)

Date: March 20, 2012

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor: Sens. Skindell and Grendell

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: To regulate the practice of art therapy

State Fiscal Highlights

- The bill would add three new members to the Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board – two art therapists and one additional public member. The Board estimates that wage and benefits for the three new Board members would cost approximately \$2,300 per year. In addition, travel reimbursement costs for the new members would be \$900 to \$10,000 per year, depending on how far they must travel to attend the Board meetings.
- The bill allows the Board to charge art therapists a licensing fee and a license renewal fee. As a result, the Board could receive approximately \$15,000 to \$30,000 in new fee revenue every two years.
- Under the bill, the Board would incur some additional costs to license applicants and enforce licensing standards for art therapists.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on political subdivisions.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Regulation of art therapy

The bill requires the Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board to regulate art therapy and changes the name of the Board to the Counselor, Social Worker, Marriage and Family Therapist, and Art Therapist Board.

Board membership

The bill requires the Governor to appoint three additional Board members – two art therapists and one additional public member. Like the current Board members, the three new members appointed under the bill are to serve three-year terms after their initial appointments. Board members receive a fixed amount for each day (\$19.55 per hour x 8 hours) employed in the discharge of their official duties as Board or committee members. Board members generally meet 12 times per year. The Board estimates the annual cost of a board member is approximately \$2,300 (\$19.55 per hour x 8 hours x 12 meetings). In addition, Board members are reimbursed for their necessary and actual expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties. The Board estimates travel reimbursement costs for the three new members would total \$900 to \$10,000 per year, depending on how far they must travel to attend the Board meetings.

Application process

The bill requires an individual seeking a license to practice as an art therapist to submit a written application to the Art Therapist Professional Standards Committee on a form prescribed by the Board. When submitting the application, the individual must pay a fee established by the Board in rule. According to a spokesperson for the Board, they would likely charge a fee for art therapists that would be similar to the fees that are charged to other professionals currently licensed by the Board. The spokesperson for the Board estimates there could be 250 to 400 individuals who apply for an art therapy license. Assuming the Board would charge \$60 or \$75 for a license (i.e., the fees currently charged other professionals the board licenses), the Board could receive \$15,000 to \$30,000 (250 individuals x \$60; 400 individuals x \$75) in new license fee revenue.

The Board will also have to maintain records of licenses with the e-licensing system, which is managed by the Department of Administrative Services (DAS). Boards and licensing agencies pay a fee to DAS based on their share of the total licenses entered into the system. Creating an art therapy license will add an additional cost to utilize the e-licensing system.

License renewal

Licenses issued by the Board expire every two years and are subject to a standardized license renewal procedure used by certain licensing agencies, including the Board. A licensee must submit a fee and evidence of completing the required

continuing education. Under the bill, art therapists are subject to these renewal requirements, as well as maintaining the appropriate certification or registration from the Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc. According to the spokesperson for the Board, the application fee for a license renewal is likely to be the same as the initial application fee. Therefore, the Board could receive \$15,000 to \$30,000 (250 individuals x \$60; 400 individuals x \$75) in license renewal fee revenue every two years following initial licensure.

Disciplinary actions

The bill also extends to art therapy services the Board's existing authority to investigate any violation of its laws or rules and alleged irregularities in the delivery of services. An art therapist may request an adjudication regarding the suspension in accordance with current Board procedures. The Board anticipates there will be some additional investigation costs, disciplinary hearing costs, and potential court costs, but these increased costs are expected to be minimal.

Rulemaking

The bill includes art therapy within the Board's existing authority to adopt any rules necessary to carry out its duties and implement the bill's provisions regarding art therapy in accordance with R.C. Chapter 119. The Board will incur a minimal administrative cost to adopt rules.