

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 4821S.01I  
Bill No.: SB 1284  
Subject: Professional Registration and Licensing; Counseling; Mental Health  
Type: Original  
Date: January 18, 2024

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Bill Summary: This proposal modifies provisions relating to professional counselors.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>
Committee of Professional Counselors Fund	(\$80,626)	\$18,750	\$21,778
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>(\$80,626)</b>	<b>\$18,750</b>	<b>\$21,778</b>

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>
Committee of Professional Counselors Fund	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>1 FTE</b>	<b>1 FTE</b>	<b>1 FTE</b>

- Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.
- Estimated Net Effect (savings or increased revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

#### Section 337.507 – Provisional Counselor License

Officials from the **Department of Commerce and Insurance (DCI)** assume this proposal requires the Division of Professional Registration to provide electronic access to applicants within 15 business days. Section 337.510 requires the Division to issue a provisional counselor license within 15 business days after receipt of a completed application. The division may refuse to issue a provisional license if the applicant has a disqualifying criminal record, a license that has been denied or revoked in any state or currently under investigation or has a pending complaint in any state.

Rule 20 CSR 2095-2.005 defines the requirements for a provisional license depending upon an applicant's level of education. Provisional licenses are void upon its expiration date or when supervision is terminated. It also allows for the extension of a provisional license.

#### Provisional License Revenue

600 Estimated provisional licenses (Annually)

\$165 Provisional license fee

**Total Revenue - \$99,000 FY 2026**

- Projected revenue reflects fees collected for all categories of licensure.
- A 3% growth rate has been estimated.
- It is estimated that the collection of temporary license fees will begin in FY 2026.
- If the number of licensees largely vary from the number estimated above, the licensure fees will be adjusted accordingly.

#### Board Per Diem

DCI assumes to meet the fifteen-day requirement, twelve additional meetings will be necessary to approve the completed provisional applications. It is assumed that these meetings will be conference calls so there will be no travel expenses.

#### Staffing-Estimated at PR current staffing salaries

- 1 FTE Customer Service Representative (\$38,100 annually) needed to provide technical support, process applications for licensure, and respond to inquiries related to the licensure law and/or rules and regulations.

In summary, DCI assumes a cost of \$80,626 in FY 2025, a net revenue of \$18,750 in FY 2026 and \$21,778 in FY 2027 to the Committee of Professional Counselors Fund (0672), as a result of the implementation of the changes in this proposal.

**Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect the revenue and cost estimates as provided by DCI in the fiscal note.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2025 (10 Mo.)	FY 2026	FY 2027
<b>COMMITTEE OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS FUND (0672)</b>			
<u>Revenue – DCI §337.507</u>			
Provisional Counselor License	\$0	\$99,000	\$101,970
<u>Cost – DCI §337.507</u>			
Personal Service	(\$31,750)	(\$38,862)	(\$39,639)
Fringe Benefits	(\$24,822)	(\$30,082)	(\$30,383)
Equipment and Expense	(\$15,579)	\$0	\$0
Other Cost	(\$8,475)	(\$11,306)	(\$10,170)
Total Cost - DCI	(\$80,626)	(\$80,250)	(\$80,192)
FTE Change - DCI	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT TO THE COMMITTEE OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS FUND (0672)</b>	<b><u>(\$80,626)</u></b>	<b><u>\$18,750</u></b>	<b><u>\$21,778</u></b>
Estimated Net FTE Change to the Committee of Professional Counselors Fund (0672)	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2025 (10 Mo.)	FY 2026	FY 2027
	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

A fiscal impact to small business counselors would be expected as a result of this proposal.

### FISCAL DESCRIPTION

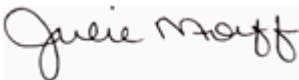
This act modifies the process for licensure as a professional counselor. Within fifteen days of receipt of an application for licensure as a professional counselor, the Division of Professional Registration ("Division") shall provide the applicant with electronic access to the application. Any missing information or documentation may be electronically submitted by the applicant to the Division, with certain exceptions provided in the act.

Upon submission of a completed application by an applicant who holds a graduate degree from certain accredited organizations, the Division shall issue the applicant a provisional license. Such license shall be valid until the application is reviewed by the Committee for Professional Counselors. If the application is rejected by the Committee, then the provisional license shall terminate immediately. If the application is approved, then the provisional license shall remain in effect until the termination date provided by rule. The act authorizes the Division to refuse to issue a provisional license through the expedited process in the act for certain listed reasons.

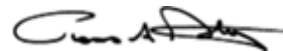
This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Commerce and Insurance



Julie Morff  
Director  
January 18, 2024



Ross Strope  
Assistant Director  
January 18, 2024