

## Department of Planning and Budget 2003 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number** HB1969

<b>House of Origin</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
<b>Second House</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

**2. Patron** Athey

**3. Committee** General Laws

**4. Title** Consolidation of Board of Rehabilitative Services and the State Rehabilitation Council

**5. Summary/Purpose:**

This legislation eliminates the Board of Rehabilitative Services and merges its responsibilities into the State Rehabilitation Council. The responsibility of promulgating regulations regarding human research is also transferred to the Commissioner of the Department of Rehabilitative Services. The Board advises the Governor, Secretary of Health and Human Resources and the Department of Rehabilitative Services on the delivery of public services to and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities. The two collegial bodies share oversight responsibilities on two-thirds of the Department's programs. The Council's responsibilities can be naturally extended to include the other non-vocational rehabilitation programs of the Department. This bill is identical to legislation recommended by the Joint Subcommittee Studying the Operations, Practices, Duties, and Funding of the Commonwealth's Agencies, Boards, Commissions, Councils, and Other Governmental Entities pursuant to HJR 159 (2002).

**6. No Fiscal Impact**

**7. Budget amendment necessary:** No.

**8. Fiscal implications:** Though the consolidation of responsibilities results in less staff time required by the Department of Rehabilitative Services, the fiscal implications are negligible.

**9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Department of Rehabilitative Services

**10. Technical amendment necessary:** No.

**11. Other comments:** None.

**Date:** 01/09/02/laf

**Document:** G:\Fis\2003\Hb1969.Doc

cc: Secretary of Health and Human Resources