

Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB555

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

2. Patron: Freitas

3. Committee: General Laws

4. Title: Professions and occupations; landscape architecture and hair braiding.

5. Summary: Removes the licensure requirement for the occupation of landscape architect and provides for optional certification. The bill limits title protection for landscape architects to the term "certified landscape architect" and removes restrictions on the practice of landscape architecture by unlicensed persons. The bill also clarifies that hair braiding is not a practice included under the definition of "cosmetology".

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill changes the administrative and regulatory responsibilities of the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR) by removing the licensure requirement for landscape architect and providing for an optional certification. There are currently about 900 licensed landscape architects. The clarification that a license is not required for hair braiding has no effect on DPOR's responsibilities.

DPOR's cost to revise the regulations related to implementing this legislation is expected to be approximately \$900 in FY 2021. This includes a one-time charge for printing and postage expense to send out notification letters to existing licensees and to print mail requests for new regulations. Existing staff resources would also need to be utilized to modify and update all applications and to make configuration updates to the licensing system.

The changes to the sections impacting the State Corporation Commission and the Department of Environmental Quality are technical in nature to conform the terms to other sections in the bill.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.