

## Department of Planning and Budget 2021 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB1189E

**House of Origin**     Introduced         Substitute         Engrossed  
**Second House**     In Committee     Substitute         Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Hashmi

3. **Committee:** Education and Health

4. **Title:** Licensure of occupational therapists; Occupational Therapy Interjurisdictional Licensure Compact.

5. **Summary:** Authorizes Virginia to become a signatory to the Occupational Therapy Interjurisdictional Licensure Compact. The Compact permits eligible licensed occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants to practice in Compact member states provided they are licensed in at least one member state. The bill has a delayed effective date of January 1, 2022, and directs the Board of Medicine to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill. The Compact takes effect when it is enacted by a tenth member state.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** See item 8.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Indeterminate, See item 8.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Health Professions and the Board of Medicine would incur costs for participation in the Occupational Therapy Interjurisdictional Licensure Compact; however, there is insufficient information available to determine the impact. Costs to become a member of the Compact have not yet been identified as it is not yet operational. Other member costs will include office space, operational expenses, and a data system for the Compact, which according to the bill will need to be funded by the member states. The provisions of the bill state that to participate in the compact a member state shall license occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants and to have in place a mechanism for investigating complaints about licensees. Fees for licensure would be set at a level comparable to fees for professions licensed by the Board of Medicine. Additionally, the extent of potential loss of revenue from current licensees who live in other states (who may let their Virginia license lapse and continue practicing on a compact privilege) cannot be determined. Finally, the cost to obtain compact privileges for an occupational therapist has not been determined.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Health Professions.

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

11. **Other Comments:** None.