

Department of Planning and Budget

2011 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 2037

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

2. Patron: Peace, Christopher K.

3. Committee: Passed Both Houses

4. Title: Social work; title protection

5. Summary: The enrolled bill provides that it shall be unlawful for any person not licensed by the Board of Social Work to use the title "Social Worker" in writing or in advertising in connection with his practice unless he simultaneously uses the clarifying initials signifying a degree in social work. The bill provides exceptions for federally required and defined social workers in nursing homes and hospices and has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2013. In addition, the bill stipulates that its provisions will not require the Department of Social Services, or any other entity, to hire social workers who are licensed or have advanced degrees.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

7. Fiscal Impact Is Unknown (see item 8)

8. Fiscal Implications: Although insufficient data exists to determine the fiscal impact due to this proposal, the proposal could result in an increase in the jail population since Class 1 misdemeanor outcomes result in sentences of up to 12 months in jail (and a fine up to \$2,500). Any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state. The Commonwealth presently pays the localities \$4.00 a day for each misdemeanant or otherwise local responsible prisoner held in a jail. It also funds most of the jails' operating costs, e.g. correctional officers. The state's share of these costs on a per prisoner, per day basis varies from locality to locality. However, according to the Compensation Board's FY 2009 Jail Cost Report (November 1, 2010), the estimated total state support for local and regional jails averaged \$33.01 per state inmate, per day in FY 2009.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:

Department of Social Services
Department of Health Professions
Local and State Regional Jails
State Compensation Board

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None

Date: 2/24/11

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