

## Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB858

<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:** Petersen

**3. Committee:** Education and Health

**4. Title:** Naturopathic doctors; license required.

**5. Summary:** Requires the Board of Medicine to license and regulate naturopathic doctors, defined in the bill as an individual, other than a doctor of medicine, osteopathy, chiropractic, or podiatry, who may diagnose, treat, and help prevent diseases using a system of practice that is based on the natural healing capacity of individuals, using physiological, psychological, or physical methods, and who may also use natural medicines, prescriptions, legend drugs, foods, herbs, or other natural remedies, including light and air.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Indeterminate, see item #8.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The fiscal impact of this bill cannot be determined. It is unknown how many individuals currently practice naturopathic medicine or how many would seek licensure. Depending on the increase in workload associated with the provisions of the bill, an additional licensing specialist may be needed. It is estimated that this position would cost an estimated \$64,875 annually. Fees for the licensure of music therapists would be set at a level sufficient to cover costs and the remaining can be absorbed with existing resources.

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

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

**11. Other Comments:** HB1040, introduced by Delegate Rasoul, is a companion bill.