



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 18-0501
Prime Sponsors: Sen. Garcia

Date: January 16, 2018
Bill Status: Senate Health and Human Services
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Bill Topic: REGISTERED PSYCHOTHERAPISTS AURICULAR ACUDETTOX

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure (<i>potential, minimal</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

This bill allows registered psychotherapists to practice auricular acudetox. This potentially increases workload and costs by a minimal amount. These impacts continue in future years.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary of Legislation

This bill allows registered psychotherapists to practice auricular acudetox if they have documented that they have met certain training requirements. Under current law, only licensed mental health care professionals and level III certified addiction counselors may practice this technique. Auricular detoxification is the placement of acupuncture needles at certain points in the ear for persons undergoing detoxification for a substance use disorder.

State Expenditures

The bill potentially increases workload and costs in the Division of Professions and Occupations in the Department of Regulatory Agencies to investigate complaints and take disciplinary actions against registered psychotherapists practicing auricular acudetox. Specifically, staff time may be required to receive and investigate complaints, and costs may be incurred if consultation with outside specialists or legal services from the Department of Law are required. The fiscal note assumes that any increase in workload and costs will be minimal and can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 8, 2018, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 9, 2018, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Judicial

Law

Regulatory Agencies