



Legislative
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HB 20-1212

**FINAL
FISCAL NOTE**

Drafting Number: LLS 20-0514
Prime Sponsors: Rep. Landgraf; Caraveo
 Sen. Todd; Tate
Date: August 17, 2020
Bill Status: Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: **SUNSET NATUROPATHIC DOCTORS**

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

Sunset bill. HB 20-1212 continues the regulation of naturopathic doctors in the Department of Regulatory Agencies, which is scheduled to repeal on September 1, 2020. State fiscal impacts include both a minimal increase in workload from changes to the program under the bill, as well as the continuation of the program's current revenue and expenditures. The program is continued through September 1, 2029.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

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

**Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under HB 20-1212***

Continuing Program Impacts		FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22
Revenue	Cash Funds	-	\$90,000
Expenditures	Cash Funds	-	\$90,000
	FTE	-	0.8 FTE

* Table 1 shows the new impacts resulting from changes to the program under the bill and the continuing impacts from extending the program beyond its current repeal date. The continuing program impacts will end if the bill is not passed and the program is allowed to repeal.

Summary of Legislation

The bill continues the regulation of naturopathic doctors by the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) for nine years until September 1, 2029 and implements some of the department's recommendations in the sunset report. Specifically, it provides department staff, consultants, and complainants with immunity from liability for acts occurring while acting in their capacity; amends the makeup and meeting requirements of the Naturopathic Medicine Advisory Committee; and broadens title protection for registered or licensed naturopathic doctors.

Background

Naturopathic doctors are required to register with DORA. Requirements for registration include the completion of a four-year, accredited, graduate-level program; passing the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examination; and payment of an application fee. Registrations expire annually and naturopathic doctors must maintain continued professional competency, as established by DORA, in order to renew or reinstate a registration.

Continuing Program Impacts

Based on DORA's recent expenditures, it is expected to have revenue and expenditure of \$90,000 to administer the regulation of naturopathic doctors. If this bill is enacted, current revenue and expenditures will continue for the program starting in FY 2021-22. This continuing revenue is subject to the state TABOR limits. If this bill is not enacted, the program will end on September 1, 2021, following a wind-down period, and state revenue and expenditures will decrease starting in FY 2021-22 by the amounts shown in Table 1. The changes to the program that drive additional workload are discussed below. The fiscal note does not identify any change to TABOR refunds because the revenue is already accounted for in the LCS revenue forecast.

State Expenditures

Beginning in FY 2020-21, the bill increases the workload in DORA by broadening title protection, which could lead to more complaints received and addressed by the department. The workload increase is expected to be minimal, so no change in appropriation is required.

Effective Date

This bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on July 2, 2020.

State and Local Government Contacts

Information Technology

Law

Regulatory Agencies