

## **Legislative Council Staff**

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

# **Final Fiscal Note**

Prime Sponsors:	Sen. Michaelson Jenet; Smallwood Rep. Young; Sirota	Date: Bill Status: Fiscal Analyst:	Signed into Law Brendan Fung   303-866-4781 brendan.fung@coleg.gov	
Bill Topic:	MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS PRACTICE REQUIREMENTS			
Summary of Fiscal Impact:	☐ State Revenue ☑ State Expenditure	☐ State Transfer ☐ TABOR Refund	☐ Local Government☐ Statutory Public Entity	
	The bill modifies various requirements for licensed mental health professionals to practice in the state. It minimally increases state workload starting in FY 2024-25.			
Appropriation Summary:	No appropriation is required.			
Fiscal Note Status:	This final fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.			

## **Summary of Legislation**

The bill modifies requirements for licensed mental health professionals, including psychologists, social workers, marriage and family therapists, professional counselors, and addiction counselors, to practice in the state. Specifically, the bill:

- repeals the requirement for mental health professionals to disclose the difference between licensure, registration, and certification to clients;
- allows a licensed psychometrician or a student trainee under supervision to administer psychometric or electrodiagnostic testing for licensure, registration, and certification;
- requires a license candidate to take and pass the Colorado Mental Health Jurisprudence Examination in order to obtain a candidate registration;
- allows a license candidate to renew or reinstate a candidate registration under certain circumstances including the completion of continuing professional development and education hours; and
- clarifies experience and examination requirements for social workers and professional counselors.

DORA must begin making rules by December 31, 2024 to bring license and license candidate rules into alignment with statute.

## **State Expenditures**

The bill minimally increases workload in DORA to make rules and conduct educational outreach to mental health professionals. The department may require legal counsel, provided by the Department of Law, related to rulemaking, implementation, and ongoing administration of the program. Any increase in workload and costs can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

#### **Effective Date**

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on May 22, 2024, and takes effect on August 7, 2024, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

#### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Human Services	Law	Personnel
Regulatory Agencies		

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the <u>General Assembly website</u>.