



DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS

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Honorable Alan Powell
Chairman, House Regulated Industries Committee
613-B Coverdell Legislative Office Bldg.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note
House Bill 412 (LC 33 8705S)

Dear Chairman Powell:

The bill would create the Georgia Behavior Analyst Licensing Board and establish state licensing requirements for individuals practicing applied behavior analysis. Under the bill, the board would license behavior analysts and assistant behavior analysts. License applicants must pass a behavior analyst examination conducted by a certifying entity, hold a master's degree (bachelor's for assistant analyst license) related to behavior analysis, maintain board certification, and pass a fingerprint background check. Application fees would be charged for new licenses and renewals after two years. The Secretary of State would provide staff for the board.

The bill will incur one-time and annual costs related to establishing new license types in the current licensing system and hiring additional staff. The bill will likely result in revenue that would offset some portion of these costs, but the revenue is dependent on the number of license applicants and license renewals.

Impact of Expenditures

- *Information System* – The SOS will update its licensing information system to add three additional license types – behavior analyst, assistant behavior analyst, and temporary behavior analyst. The SOS estimates that the system update will result in a one-time cost of approximately \$75,000.
- *Additional Staff* – The bill will require SOS to process additional licenses and conduct additional investigations. SOS estimates this additional workload will require one additional licensure analyst and one additional investigator at a total annual cost of approximately \$125,000.

Impact on Revenue

- *License Application & Renewal Fees* – The SOS indicated that a license application fee of \$100 would be assessed for Behavior Analysts and Assistant Behavior Analysts, in addition to a \$30 license application fee for Temporary Behavior Analysts. The SOS also indicated that a renewal fee of \$100 would be assessed for Behavior Analysts and Assistant Behavior Analysts every two years. Currently more than 900 Georgians carry a Behavior Analyst or Assistant Behavior Analyst certification from the Behavior Analyst Certification Board. License revenue is estimated at more than \$90,000 every two years.

Sincerely,



Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor



Kelly Farr, Director
Office of Planning and Budget

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