



# DOAA

Georgia Department  
of Audits & Accounts

**Greg S. Griffin**  
State Auditor

January 2, 2024

Honorable Sandra Scott  
State Representative  
131-B State Capitol  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note  
House Bill 154 (LC 33 9249)

Dear Representative Scott:

This bill would have Georgia join an interstate compact known as the “Cosmetology Licensure Compact.” The Georgia State Board of Cosmetology and Barbers would administer multi-state licenses that allow holders to practice in any state that is a part of the compact. Applicants must pay for and pass a criminal background check to obtain the license. They may also be required to pay other fees related to the application and process as well as fees imposed by the compact’s governing commission. Georgia would be required to participate in the compact’s data system, ensure that licensees to pass a competency exam before being licensed, and accept licensees from other member states. The legislation would take effect when seven states have passed this compact statute.

The Secretary of State’s (SOS) office, under which the State Board of Cosmetology and Barbers operates, indicated that a 10-15% increase in workload would be needed for processing compact licenses. SOS currently processes approximately 1,000 cosmetology and barber applications a month. The workload would require an additional compliance staff member, as well as one or two analysts, at a total cost of \$125,800 to \$188,700.

The application fee for an initial applicant is currently \$30. With the compact, the applicant would likely pay an additional \$50-55 for a fingerprint background check and additional application fees for a multi-state license. However, an updated application fee from the Board and the compact commission has not yet been established, so the change in revenue that would be sent to the state treasury cannot be estimated.

Respectfully,

Greg S. Griffin  
State Auditor

Richard Dunn, Director  
Office of Planning and Budget

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