

PREPARED BY: Liz Hruska
 DATE PREPARED: January 20, 2021
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LB 325

Revision: 00

FISCAL NOTE
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)				
	FY 2021-22		FY 2022-23	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS		\$3,750		
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS		\$3,750		

Any Fiscal Notes received from state agencies and political subdivisions are attached following the Legislative Fiscal Analyst Estimate.

This bill places the practice of art therapy under the regulation of the Uniform Credentialing Act. The Board of Mental Health Practice would oversee the regulations. A license would be required for the practice of art therapy. The effective date of the act is January 1, 2022.

There are approximately 75 art therapists in the state. The Department of Health and Human Services indicated the workload can be handled within existing agency resources. Fees would be set according to the methodology used for all professions under the Uniform Credentialing Act. The estimated fee would be \$75. Estimated revenue in FY 2022 is \$3,750.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY & POLT. SUB. RESPONSE			
LB: 325	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services	
REVIEWED BY: Ann Linneman	DATE: 1-21-2021	PHONE: (402) 471-4180	
COMMENTS: The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services' analysis and estimate of fiscal impact to the department appears reasonable.			

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

State Agency or Political Subdivision Name:(2) Department of Health and Human Services

Prepared by: (3) Mike Michalski

Date Prepared 1-15-2021

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	<u>FY 2021-2022</u>		<u>FY 2022-2023</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Return by date specified or 72 hours prior to public hearing, whichever is earlier.

Explanation of Estimate:

LB 325 proposes to add Art Therapist as an additional certification required by a licensed Mental Health Practitioner to engage in the practice of Art Therapy. All costs and revenues would be associated with the Professional and Occupational Credentialing Cash Fund and Program 178.

Estimated costs to implement LB 325 are based upon the following:

1. Estimate is based upon a certification credential being issued to practice Art Therapy and not as an individual license.
2. *Psychology Today* publishes an online directory listing of approximately seventy-five (75) individuals who currently list Art Therapy as one of their treatment approaches in Nebraska.
3. Estimate is based upon the existing 75 individuals that are known to offer Art Therapy as a treatment option and would be required to apply for certification as an Art Therapist to continue providing this treatment in their practice.
4. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) would recoup the cost of start up and managing the new credential through the established fees. DHHS would incorporate certification as an option with the Mental Health Practitioner license renewals. DHHS expects this work to have a minimal impact on the current workload.

LB 325 proposes the new certification requirement to be effective January 1, 2022. Startup activities are estimated to begin on October 1, 2021. Initial startup cost estimate is as follows:

1. An IT Business Systems Analyst to add Art Therapist to the electronic credentialing system for eight (8) hours and update the licensing website.
2. A Health Licensing Specialist to create and distribute electronic and physical media regarding the new credentialing requirements to approximately 5,000 current mental health practitioners for eighty (80) hours.

	<u>FY21-22</u>	<u>FY22-23</u>
A07081 IT Business Systems Analyst	\$195	\$0
R01750 Health Licensing Specialist	\$1,269	\$0
Benefits	\$408	\$0
<u>Operating</u>	<u>\$539</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Total Estimated Startup Costs	\$2,411	\$0

Revenue Estimate:

All expenses and revenues would be subject to the Uniform Credentialing Act's specified methodology for establishing expenses and fees. The Department pools costs common to all UCA professions and distributes these costs based on the number of credentials issued in each profession or occupation. This is added to the direct costs associated with the profession and occupation. The current credentialing fee for a similar certification under the Mental Health Practice Act is \$50 biennially.

Estimated number of applicants certified beginning January 1, 2022 is (75) seventy-five.

Estimated biennial revenue = 75 x \$50 \$3,750

The final cost estimate assumes that the actual total costs attributed to LB 325 will be offset by actual revenue obtained on a biennial basis.

MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE				
PERSONAL SERVICES:				
POSITION TITLE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2021-2022	2022-2023
	21-22	22-23	EXPENDITURES	EXPENDITURES
Benefits.....				
Operating.....			\$0	\$0
Travel.....				
Capital Outlay.....				
Aid.....				
Capital Improvements.....				
TOTAL.....			\$0	\$0