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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Johnson ORIGINAL DATE 02/02/21
LAST UPDATED _____ HB 178
SHORT TITLE Counseling & Therapy Licensure SB _____
ANALYST Hanika-Ortiz

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY21	FY22	FY23	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	NFI	NFI	NFI			

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Regulation and Licensing Department (RLD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 178 amends the Counseling and Therapy Practice Act (Act), Section 61-9A-3 NMSA 1978, under the definitions section to include “appropriate clinical supervision” to clarify that a licensed alcohol and drug abuse counselor must have three years of related work experience in the field, as well as “counseling-related field” and “substance abuse-related field,” by adding the terms human services and family services to the list of degree types that qualify for inclusion in the field.

HB178 also delays the repeal of the Counseling and Therapy Practice Board to July 1, 2027, pursuant to the Sunset Act, and the Counseling and Therapy Practice Act, to July 1, 2028.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal impact

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

RLD notes it expected a sunset extension bill to be introduced during the 2021 legislative session that would include the Counseling and Therapy Practice Board and Act.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The board's rules will require amendments to reflect the updated definitions.

RELATIONSHIP

Related to HB125, Behavioral Health Practitioner Changes

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

The board will terminate on July 1, 2021 and the Act will terminate on July 1, 2022, unless the governor signs this legislation or similar legislation to extend these sunset provisions.

AHO/al