
Detailed Fiscal Analysis

This bill would require the State Board of Psychology to provide, upon request from an applicant diagnosed with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), an oral examination that is equivalent to the Board's written examination.

The State Board of Psychology currently uses a two-part exam for licensure. The first part is a nationally developed written exam with 200 multiple-choice questions. Examinees are allowed four hours to complete the test. This test is currently offered twice a year on the same days around the country. The State Board of Psychology develops and administers the second part of the licensing exam. The second part is an oral examination that covers the American Psychology Association's ethical principals and standards and Ohio laws and regulations.

It is assumed that, to comply with this bill, the State Board of Psychology would need to provide personnel to read the national exam aloud to each affected examinee. LBO estimates that the Board will have to spend \$32 to \$64 per affected examinee to hire a proctor to read the test aloud. The Board currently pays test proctors \$8 per hour. People taking the test orally would most likely need more than the allotted four hours (possible up to 8 hours) to complete the exam.

The State Board of Psychology states that ADHD affects people in different ways. The Board has made the following testing accommodations for people with disabilities in the past: allowed longer periods of time to complete the exam; located people in different parts of the room to limit distractions; allowed the examinee to take the test in a private room with a proctor; allowed someone else to mark the exam answer sheet for someone with a mobility impairment; and allowed someone to read the test aloud for someone with a visual impairment.

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