

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 79TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**March 12, 2005**

**TO:** Honorable Dianne White Delisi, Chair, House Committee on Public Health

**FROM:** John S. O'Brien, Deputy Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB660** by Chavez (Relating to training in gerontology for certain health care practitioners.),  
**As Introduced**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

This would bill amend the Occupations Code by stating that a “health care practitioner” is an individual who is licensed in this state to provide health care services. The term would include a physician, a registered nurse, a psychologist, a licensed professional counselor, and any other license holder under this code who, in providing health care services, provides therapy or counseling services.

The bill also states that regulatory agencies that licenses health care practitioners shall adopt rules to approve training in gerontology as acceptable for continuing education. According to the Board of Medical Examiners, these rules would have to be developed to clarify gerontology continuing education. These rules would then need to be published, and licensees informed. The Board of Medical Examiners states that these tasks are routinely done within the agency and would be an extension of these duties.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2005.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 503 Board of Medical Examiners, 507 Board of Nurse Examiners, 508 Board of Chiropractic Examiners, 512 Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners, 514 Optometry Board, 520 Board of Examiners of Psychologists

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