

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. D. Edwards
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Devlin

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed A-Engrossed

Vote: 18 – 0 – 3

House – Yeas: D. Edwards, Galizio, Garrard, Hanna, Jenson, Morgan, Nathanson, Nolan, Shields

– Nays:

– Exc:

Senate – Yeas: Carter, Devlin, Gordly, Johnson, Morse, Nelson, Schrader, Westlund, Whitsett

– Nays:

– Exc: Bates, Verger, Winters

Prepared By: Deborah Manthe, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: 2/9/07

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Provides Legislative ratification of fee increases (detailed below) implemented administratively during the current biennium by the Board of Clinical Social Workers.

	2003-05 Fees	2005-07 Fees
Licensed Clinical Social Worker:		
Initial License	\$65	\$66
Renewal – annual	\$75	\$90
Clinical Social Worker Associate:		
Initial License	\$50	\$48
Renewal – annual	\$55	\$60

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The fee increases were anticipated in the agency's 2005-07 adopted budget
- Revenue generated by the continuation of the increases (estimated to be \$80,900) is needed to fund the agency's 2007-09 budget and provide a prudent ending balance

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Corrects an error and eliminates administrative fee increases proposed for 2007-09.

BACKGROUND: Fees were temporarily reduced in 1999-01 to address a high ending cash balance. Fees remained at the reduced level through 2001-03 and were restored administratively (to 1997-99 levels) in 2003-05. The temporary fee reduction drove the ending balance too low – requiring fees to be increased again in 2005-07. Both increases were discussed as part of the agency's 2005-07 budget hearings.