

HB 5033

Board of Psychologist Examiners

HB 5033 is the budget bill for the Board of Psychologist Examiners. The Board licenses and regulates the practice of psychology. The Board is financed entirely from Other Fund revenues.

The budget recommended by the Subcommittee on Education totals \$1,301,464 Other Funds and 4.50 FTE. The budget includes a one-time 66% reduction in renewal fees for all licensees thereby decreasing projected revenues by \$541,613 to address a cash balance surplus. The budget also includes an expenditure limitation to fund a half-time Office Specialist to handle the increase customer service and administrative workload, and a half-time Investigator to allow the Board to actively pursue and prevent unlicensed and untrained persons from providing mental health services to unsuspecting patients. These positions are to be established as limited duration positions as the Board works with the Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists towards a proposal for merging the staff of the two Boards by the 2017-19 biennium.

The Subcommittee recommends HB 5033 be amended by the -1 amendment and be reported out do pass as amended.