

SB 5538

Board of Tax Practitioners

SB 5538 is the budget bill for the Board of Tax Practitioners. The seven-member consumer protection licensing board is funded entirely by Other Funds derived from the issuance of licenses and business registrations, examination fees, fines, and penalties.

The General Government Subcommittee recommends a budget of \$1,060,855 Other Funds which includes three positions comprising 2.50 FTE. This budget represents a 15.9% reduction from the 2015-17 legislatively approved budget and a 0% change from the 2017-19 adjusted current service level. The projected ending fund balance is equivalent to four months of operating expenses.

This budget accounts for cost savings activities that have been implemented in the current biennium, including relocating the office to a less expensive space and decreasing staffing as a result of implementing new IT initiatives. Given the agency's declining licensee base, a budget note has been included to direct the agency to report back to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means during the 2018 legislative session regarding the status of revenues, expenditures, and licensee counts.

The General Government Subcommittee recommends SB 5538 be amended by the –1 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.