

TESTIMONY PROVIDED TO: Senate Government Operations Committee
 FROM: Rebecca Holcombe, Secretary Agency of Education
 TOPIC: H.562
 DATE: April 22, 2016

Testimony is based on this version of H.562:

<http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2016/WorkGroups/Senate%20Government%20Operations/Bills/H.562/H.562~BetsyAnn%20Wrask~Draft%20No.%201.1,%204-14-2016~4-14-2016.pdf>

Impact	Option 1- Both Professional/Clinical License and Educator License conferred by OPR	Option 2- Professional/Clinical License conferred by OPR; Educator license conferred by AOE	Option 3- Clinical License and Educator License conferred by AOE
Statute	As proposed in current version of H.562 (p.71-74)	No amendment to statute required	Rescind Act 38 and return clinical licensure of SLPs to AOE
Licensees	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Includes ≈1,000 potential educators about 8% of teaching force; 500 are SLPs Convenience of a single location for license-medium licensing fees <ol style="list-style-type: none"> OPR fee= \$100 per year AOE= \$0 per year Total= \$100 per year Maintain teacher benefits related to contracts and retirement. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Includes ≈1,000 potential educators about 8% of teaching force; 500 are SLPs Inconvenience of two locations for licenses-highest licensing fees <ol style="list-style-type: none"> OPR fee=\$100 per year; AOE fee=\$67 per year Total = \$167 per year Maintain teacher benefits related to contracts and retirement. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 500 are SLP educators, unknown number of clinically licensed SLPs Convenience of a single location for license- lowest licensing fees <ol style="list-style-type: none"> OPR fee=\$0 per year; AOE fee=\$67¹ per year Total= \$67 per year Maintain teacher benefits related to contracts and retirement. Non-educator SLPs may not want this change.
OPR	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Increased work relative to licensees New costs related to collaboration with VSBPE New costs related to creating data sharing agreements and data transfer New costs related to collaboration with AOE 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> No change in revenue or work No change in consultation with VSBPE No requirement to share data No increased costs to collaborate with AOE 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of revenue from clinical licenses of SLPs² No change in consultation with VSBPE No requirement to share data No increased costs to collaborate with AOE Lost investment on the startup of clinical licensure

¹ Assuming a 3-year license for \$200- \$50 application fee and \$50 for each year (\$150) - as a result the yearly cost is \$67.

² OPR would need to confirm the loss here, based on their fee of \$100 per year and roughly 400 SLPs (clinical and educator) renewing each year, we estimate this at \$80,000 per year.

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AOE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continued expenses for supporting the work of VSBPE and investigations with no corresponding revenue 2. New costs related to creating data sharing agreements and data transfer 3. New costs related to collaboration with OPR 4. Lost investment in licensing infrastructure (online) 5. Decrease in revenue of \$70-80,000^{3 4} 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No change in revenue or work 2. No change in consultation with VSBPE 3. No requirement to share data 4. No increased costs to collaborate with AOE 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase in revenue and work relative to licensees 2. No change in consultation with VSBPE 3. No requirement to share data 4. Increase in revenue of \$10-15,000⁵
Other Educators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase in fees (likely 10%) to offset reduction in revenue 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No impact 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No impact
Other entities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unclear of the impact to Treasury of having two agencies to interface with related to teacher retirement processes. 2. Unclear of impact on school systems and their negotiations with bargaining units as the definition of teacher changes; could potentially increase costs for school systems- (please see Nicole Mace testimony). 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No impact 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No impact

³ For the next two years, approximately 1/4 (250) of licensees renew, and then there are new applicants. Applicants pay for their full term of their license at the time of application; some are for 3-year licenses at \$200 each and some are for 7-year licenses at \$400 each. Assuming (150 licensees *\$200) + (100 licensees *\$400)=\$70,000. If all applicants need 3-year licenses the figure would be \$50,000; if all need 7-year licenses the figure would be \$100,000.

⁴ This pattern will hold only for the next two years as the licensing terms recently changed so that we will no longer expect 1/4 of licensees to renew every year as some have 7 year licenses.

⁵ Based on our change in revenue this year when clinical licensure was given up.