



VERMONT LEGISLATIVE
Joint Fiscal Office

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Fiscal Note

March 19, 2025

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H.472 – An act relating to professions and occupations regulated by the Office of Professional Regulation

As introduced by the House Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs^{1,i}

Bill Summary

This bill would amend various provisions governing professions and occupations regulated by the Secretary of State's Office of Professional Regulation (OPR), including:

- Changing the scope and amounts of various professional licensure fees and adding various new fee types;
- Requiring cosmetologists to be trained in the care of textured hair;
- Requiring licensed nursing assistants to take a competency exam after their license has lapsed for a period of not more than five years;
- Removing motor vehicle racing from the regulatory authority of OPR;
- Creating a position of Executive Officer for the Regulation of Mental Health Professions; and
- Requiring OPR to submit proposed legislation for the regulation of massage therapy establishments.

Fiscal Impact

According to data from OPR, various fee and regulation changes would overall increase revenue for the Professional Regulation Fund by approximately \$220,000 annually. These changes include:

- Increasing verification of license fees from \$20 to \$30;
- Reinstating the \$200 electrology shop fee;
- Creating three fees:
 - \$50 apprenticeship application fee;
 - \$100 specialty or endorsement to existing license application fee; and
 - \$250 disciplinary action surcharge.
- Ending OPR regulation of motor vehicle racing.

The fee increase for peer support providers or peer recovery support specialists (from \$50 to \$75) is estimated to provide a minimal increase in fee revenues for OPR starting in fiscal year 2028.

¹ *The Joint Fiscal Office (JFO) is a nonpartisan legislative office dedicated to producing unbiased fiscal analysis – this fiscal note is meant to provide information for legislative consideration, not to provide policy recommendations.*

In addition to these estimated impacts, there are certain changes that the Joint Fiscal Office (JFO) does not or is not able to estimate. JFO does not typically estimate revenue from changes to fines or penalties, such as the increased penalty for unauthorized practice proposed in Section 5 or the disciplinary action surcharge proposed in Section 6. In addition, language in Section 1 authorizing the Secretary of State to collect fees for optional services, such as data subscriptions, would generate additional revenue for the Secretary of State Services Fund that cannot be forecasted, as those fees would be determined on a case-by-case basis depending on the scope of the services provided.

The table below summarizes the fiscal impact of the proposed changes in fiscal years 2026 and 2027.

	Fee Renewal Period	Current Fee	Proposed Fee	Number of Units	Fiscal Year 2026 Change in Revenue	Fiscal Year 2027 Change in Revenue
Verification of License	-	\$20	\$30	2,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Electrology Shop	Biennial	-	\$200	15	-	\$3,000
Apprenticeship Application	Annual	-	\$150	50	\$7,500	\$7,500
Specialty Endorsement to Existing License Application	Annual	-	100	2,000	\$200,000	\$200,000
Motor Vehicle Racing	Annual; Biennial	Various	-	-	(\$2,000)	(\$14,000)
Total Revenue Changes					\$225,500	\$216,500

In addition, Section 12 would appropriate \$170,000 from the General Fund to OPR in fiscal year 2026 to fund a newly created exempt Executive Officer for the Regulation of Mental Health Profession position.

ⁱ The full fiscal note history is available on the fiscal tab of the bill page on the General Assembly website and can be pulled up through a bill number search on the JFO page.