

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House  
(317) 232-9855

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 8100**

**BILL NUMBER: HB 2033**

**DATE PREPARED:** Feb 25, 1999

**BILL AMENDED:** Feb 24, 1999

**SUBJECT:** Mental health counselors.

**FISCAL ANALYST:** Bernadette Bartlett

**PHONE NUMBER:** 232-9586

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**  **GENERAL**  
**DEDICATED**  
**FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill allows the Social Worker, Marriage and Family Therapist, and Mental Health Counselor Board to waive or modify the education or experience requirements for a mental health counselor applicant who demonstrates sufficient experience and knowledge in the practice of mental health counseling. This bill allows an individual who meets certain requirements to be granted a mental health counselor's license.

**Effective Date:** Upon passage; July 1, 1999.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:** (Revised) This proposal could increase revenues generated by license fees if as a result of the passage of the proposal applications increase for mental health counselors. Under the proposal, applicants must have (1) at least 20 years of mental health counseling experience in a joint commission accredited agency and a bachelor's degree in psychology; or (2) a master's or doctor's degree in counseling, clinical or counseling psychology, mental health, applied human development, or psychology. The provision expires on December 1, 1999, which also limits the number of eligible applicants. Although the specific impact is indeterminable, it is not expected to be significant. License fees are deposited in the State General Fund.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Health Professions Bureau.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:**