

Department of Planning and Budget
2025 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: SB 1419 **Patron:** Aird
Bill Title: Ear-piercers and ear-piercing salons and schools; licensure by the Board of Barbers and Cosmetology

Bill Summary: Provides for the licensure of ear-piercing salons, ear-piercing schools, and ear-piercers by the Board of Barbers and Cosmetology. The bill distinguishes ear-piercing from body-piercing by definition and requires the Board to adopt regulations establishing the requirements for licensure of ear-piercing salons, ear-piercing schools, and ear-piercers. Additionally, the bill requires the Board to develop specific training and apprenticeship programs for ear-piercers and permits localities to regulate the sanitary conditions of ear-piercing salons.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No **Items Impacted:** None

Explanation: This bill impacts the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR); however, no budget action is required. See Fiscal Analysis section, below.

Fiscal Summary: No fiscal impact to the Commonwealth is anticipated.

Fiscal Analysis: This bill would create a new license type administered by DPOR's Board for Barbers and Cosmetology to permit certain types of ear piercing.

DPOR anticipates that four additional board meetings will be required to develop licensure guidelines and specific training programs at a cost of \$3,420 each. Updates to software systems for licensing will be required, with an estimated one-time startup cost of \$40,000 and ongoing maintenance costs of \$3,825 annually. Additional staff time required to support the new regulants will be equal to one full time Pay Band 3 position, with a median cost of \$61,837 annually.

Applicants for ear piercing licenses would pay a fee to DPOR. The amount of the fee is set by the Board, and total revenue is dependent on the number of applicants. To comply with the Callahan Act, the Board would need to adjust fees if revenues are unable to support expenses, or if revenues exceed expenses by more than 20 percent.

Ear piercing, as defined in the bill, excludes "the use of a mechanized, pre-sterilized ear-piercing system." According to DPOR, this may result in a decrease in regulant population leading to a loss of up to \$60,000 in annual license fees.

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This impact statement is preliminary and may be updated if additional information becomes available.

Other: This bill is the companion to HB 2680.