

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB323

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Glass

3. **Committee:** Health and Human Services

4. **Title:** Interstate Massage Compact.

5. **Summary:** Authorizes Virginia to become a signatory to the Interstate Massage Compact. The Compact allows massage therapists who (i) possess an active, unencumbered license in the compact member state in which they reside; (ii) have completed at least 625 hours of massage therapy education; (iii) have passed the national licensing examination; and (iv) have no disqualifying criminal history to be granted a multistate license that authorizes them to practice in all compact member states. The Compact takes effect when it is enacted by a seventh member state.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Indeterminate.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Health Professions would incur costs for participation in an Interstate Massage Compact, however, there is insufficient information available to determine the impact. The agency indicates that there will be costs incurred for membership and for travel by staff and board members. According to the Department of Health Professions, the Interstate Massage Compact has not provided its fee structure to member states and therefore any fiscal impact cannot be determined at this time for participation in the compact.

Additionally, because this compact requires criminal background checks (CBC), there will be an impact to the Virginia State Police (VSP). The impact to DHP to implement background checks is minimal, as the Department of Health Professions has a criminal background check unit originally put in place for the Nurse Licensure Compact. That unit handles CBC for all other compacts that fall under the agency and it will not require additional personnel. It cannot be determined how many additional background checks would be required as a result of this legislation. Currently, one fingerprint technician can process 10,000 checks per year. Therefore, the potential increase can be handled within existing resources. However, if the total number of background checks for all passed legislation exceeds 10,000 then additional resources may be necessary.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: The Department of Health Professions and the Virginia State Police.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.