

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

HB 5023 Health Related Licensing Boards

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Education Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Dembrow

HB 5023 is the budget bill for the Health Related Licensing Boards, which includes the Mortuary and Cemetery Board, Board of Naturopathic Medicine, Occupational Therapy Licensing Board, Board of Medical Imaging, Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, and Veterinary Medical Examining Board. These six boards are combined into one agency for budgetary reporting. However, each board operates independently and has a separate expenditure limitation that is approved by the Legislature.

The boards are funded solely by Other Funds revenue, largely from licensing and application fees. The recommended budget for the six boards is \$9.4 million Other Funds and 24 positions, which includes 23.00 FTE.

Two of the boards, the Board of Naturopathic Medicine and Occupational Therapy Licensing Board, increased fees to offset increasing administrative costs. These boards also reduced expenditures in order to build up operating reserves, and as a result, both are funded below current service level.

Two boards, the Mortuary and Cemetery Board and Board of Medical Imaging, are funded at current service level.

Two boards have budgets above current service level. The Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology budget includes additional Other Funds expenditure limitation that was approved during the September 2022 Emergency Board due to increased licensing and caseload costs. The Veterinary Medical Examining Board budget includes a new Investigator 2 position due to an increased investigation caseload.

The Education Subcommittee recommends HB 5023 be amended by the –1 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.