

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB1173
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Request Number:	12151
Author:	Rep. Stark
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Research Analysis

HB 1173 allows a licensed psychologist holding a conditional prescription certificate to prescribe a psychotropic medication under the supervision of a supervising physician and allows a licensed psychologist with a prescription certificate to prescribe psychotropic medication without supervision. A psychologist may apply to the State Board of Examiners for a conditional prescription certificate, accompanied with the following evidence:

- The applicant has completed a doctoral program in psychology from an accredited institution or one that meets acceptable professional standards;
- The applicant holds a current license to practice psychology in the state
- The applicant has successfully completed a postdoctoral master of science in psychopharmacology;
- The applicant has passed a national certification exam that tests knowledge of pharmacology in the diagnosis, care, and treatment of mental disorders;
- The applicant has, within the five years immediately preceding the date of application, completed an organized program of education which included didactic instruction of at least 450 classroom hours in the core areas listed in the measure; or
- The applicant has, within the five years immediately preceding the date of the application, been certified by each of their supervising physicians as having successfully completed a supervised and relevant clinical experience.

If the applicant is found to have met the requirements, the State Board of Examiners must issue a conditional prescription certificate which will be valid for two years after which the holder can reapply. A psychologist with this prescription certification will be allowed to prescribe psychotropic medication under a supervising physician as long as certain factors are met. A supervising physician will not be liable for the acts of the psychologist under their supervision unless an injury or loss arises from those acts under the direction or control of the supervisor.

Prepared By: Suzie Nahach

Fiscal Analysis

HB 1173 permits licensed psychologists to prescribe psychotropic drugs under the supervision of a licensed physician by obtaining a conditional prescription certificate from The State Board of Examiners of Psychologists. The State Board of Examiners of Psychologists is a non-appropriated state agency. Thus, all costs incurred to implement the application process will be absorbed by The Board, having no direct fiscal impact on the state budget or appropriations.

Prepared By: Alexandra Ladner, House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.

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