

## Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB1182

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

2. **Patron:**    Ennis

3. **Committee:** General Laws

4. **Title:**    Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; Board for Professional Soil Scientists.

5. **Summary:** Removes the requirement that an applicant for certification as a professional wetland delineator provide the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists three written references from wetland professionals. The bill also replaces the requirement that an applicant with a bachelor's degree in a relevant field have successfully completed a course of instruction, in state and federal wetland delineation methods and four years of relevant experience to be certified with two years of such experience. Finally, for applicants seeking certification through experience, the bill reduces to three years the required experience that the applicant must have in wetland delineation, in wetland science research, or as a teacher of wetlands curriculum in an accredited institution of higher education in order to be certified.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary

8. **Fiscal Implications:** This bill reduces the requirements for professional wetland delineator certification. It is possible that the bill could result in an increased number of applicants, however the exact number cannot be predicted.

The Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists is funded by its regulant population. An increase in revenue without a corresponding increase in costs could result in a reduction of fees.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

11. **Other Comments:** None