Department of Planning and Budget
2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB403

    House of Origin   ☐ Introduced   ☐ Substitute   ☐ Engrossed

    Second House   ☐ In Committee   ☒ Substitute   ☐ Enrolled

2. **Patron:**   Durant

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

4. **Title:**   Behavioral health aides; scope of practice, supervision, and qualifications.

5. **Summary:** Adds behavioral health aides and behavioral health aide trainees to the professions governed by the Board of Counseling. The bill directs the Board of Counseling to adopt regulations governing the behavioral health aide and behavioral health aide trainee profession.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary**: See item 8.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The provisions of this legislation would have a fiscal impact on the Board of Counseling to regulate behavioral health aides and behavioral health aide trainees. The Department of Health Professions (DHP) estimates that the new registration category would generate approximately 20,000 registrants based on the current Qualified Mental Health Professional (QMHP) registration volume.

    The boards are currently at operating capacity and in need of additional licensing staff to handle the existing licensing volume. The agency estimates it would need one position at $97,476, which would be supported by application fees.

    Additional disciplinary staff may be needed to be to handle disciplinary matters from the new category. DHP expects behavioral health technicians to have similar or higher registration numbers as QMHPs. QMHPs currently produce about 75 percent of the discipline cases before the Board, however, there is no way to know yet if this new registration category will cause the same issues.

    Any increase in workload to promulgate regulations can be handled within existing resources.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** The Department of Health Professions.

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

11. Other Comments: None.