

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6402**

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 203

**NOTE PREPARED:** Dec 21, 2011

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Art Therapists.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Breaux

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**  GENERAL  
 DEDICATED  
 FEDERAL

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** *Registration of Art Therapists-* The bill provides that an individual may not profess to be a registered art therapist unless the individual holds and maintains the credentialing administered by the Art Therapy Credentials Board.

*Penalty Provision-* The bill establishes a Class B misdemeanor for practicing art therapy without the credentialing.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2012.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:** *Registration of Art Therapists-* Any person that knowingly, recklessly, or intentionally professes or practices art therapy, or uses the initials "ATR" indicating a registered art therapist without registering with the Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc. (ATCBI) would commit a Class B misdemeanor.

*Penalty Provision:* If additional court cases occur and fines are collected, revenue to both the Common School Fund (from fines) and the state General Fund (from court fees) would increase. The maximum fine for a Class B misdemeanor is \$1,000. However, any additional revenue would likely be small.

**Background Information-** The Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc. is a private organization based in Greensboro, North Carolina, that offers registration credentialing in art therapy. Requirements for registration

as an art therapist with the ATCBI include the completion of a Masters degree including an art therapy core. ATCBI's application fees are \$125 initially and \$100 for annual renewal. There are currently ten persons with a registration from the ATCBI located in Indiana. Individualized data on the employment of persons practicing art therapy with the Bureau of Labor Statistics is not available.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** *Penalty Provision-* A Class B misdemeanor is punishable by up to 180 days in jail.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** *Penalty Provision-* If additional court actions occur and a guilty verdict is entered, local governments would receive revenue from court fees. However, any change in revenue would likely be small.

**State Agencies Affected:**

**Local Agencies Affected:** Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

**Information Sources:** Art Therapy Credentials Board Inc. website: [www.atcb.org](http://www.atcb.org).

**Fiscal Analyst:** Chris Baker, 317-232-9851.