

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021
4

As Engrossed: S4/19/21

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1439

5 By: Representative Pilkington
6 By: Senator C. Tucker
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO UPDATE THE VOLUNTEER HEALTH CARE ACT; TO
10 INCLUDE THERAPISTS, ADDICTION SPECIALISTS, AND
11 COUNSELORS IN THE VOLUNTEER HEALTHCARE PROGRAM; TO
12 INCREASE CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS UNDER THE
13 VOLUNTEER HEALTH CARE ACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
14

Subtitle

15
16 TO UPDATE THE VOLUNTEER HEALTH CARE ACT;
17 AND TO INCLUDE THERAPISTS, ADDICTION
18 SPECIALISTS, AND COUNSELORS IN THE
19 VOLUNTEER HEALTHCARE PROGRAM.
20
21
22

23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
24

25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-8-803(5), concerning the definition of
26 "medical professional" within the Volunteer Health Care Act, is amended to
27 read as follows:

28 (5) "Medical professional" means:

29 (A) A physician, osteopathic physician, or optometric
30 physician;

31 (B) An osteopathic physician's assistant, physician's
32 assistant, or optometric physician's assistant;

33 (C) A chiropractic physician;

34 (D) A podiatric physician;

35 (E) A nurse licensed under § 17-87-101 et seq.;

36 (F) A dentist, ~~or~~ dental hygienist, or dental assistant;



- 1 (G) A pharmacist;
- 2 (H) An optometrist;
- 3 (I) A therapist;
- 4 (J) An addiction specialist;
- 5 (K) A counselor;
- 6 (L) A healthcare professional who is licensed, certified,
- 7 or registered under Subtitle 3 of Title 17 of the Arkansas Code;
- 8 (M) A dietitian or an individual who offers dietary
- 9 services; and
- 10 ~~(J)~~(N) A student enrolled in an accredited program that
- 11 prepares the student for licensure in one (1) or more of the healthcare
- 12 professions listed in subdivisions~~(5)(A)-(H)~~ (5)(A)-(L) of this section.
- 13

14 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 20-8-805(b), concerning the continuing
 15 education credit within the Volunteer Health Care Act, is amended to read as
 16 follows:

17 (b) A medical professional shall not obtain more than ~~eight (8)~~
 18 thirty-two (32) hours of credits as described in subsection (a) of this
 19 section in a licensing period.

20
21
22 /s/Pilkington
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36