

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023
4

As Engrossed: S1/18/23

A Bill

SENATE BILL 42

5 By: Senators D. Sullivan, *Irvin*
6 By: Representative Vaught
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE PRACTICE AND REGULATION OF
10 COUNSELING AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY; TO REMOVE
11 THE REQUIREMENTS FOR FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT AND FOR
12 SEEKING ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND SPECIALIZATIONS; AND
13 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

16 TO AMEND THE PRACTICE AND REGULATION OF
17 COUNSELING AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY
18 THERAPY; AND TO REMOVE THE REQUIREMENTS
19 FOR FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT AND FOR SEEKING
20 ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND SPECIALIZATIONS.
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24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-27-301(6)(A), concerning the supervision
27 requirement for a licensed professional counselor, is amended to read as
28 follows:

29 (6)(A) The applicant has three thousand (3,000) client contact
30 hours of supervised ~~full-time~~ experience in professional counseling
31 acceptable to the board.
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33 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 17-27-301(7), concerning specialty areas of
34 a licensed professional counselor, is repealed.

35 ~~(7)(A) The applicant has declared special competencies and~~
36 ~~demonstrated professional competence in specialty areas by having passed a~~



1 ~~written, oral, or situational examination or any combination thereof as the~~
2 ~~board will prescribe.~~

3 ~~(B) Upon the examination of credentials, the board, by a~~
4 ~~majority of the board members present and voting, may consider those~~
5 ~~credentials adequate evidence of professional competence and recommend to the~~
6 ~~Chair of the Arkansas Board of Examiners in Counseling that a license be~~
7 ~~approved in that specialty.~~

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9 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 17-27-307(c), concerning additional
10 specialty areas of a licensed professional counselor, licensed associate
11 counselor, licensed marriage and family therapist, or licensed associate
12 marriage and family therapist, is repealed.

13 ~~(c) If any licensed professional counselor, licensed associate~~
14 ~~counselor, licensed marriage and family therapist, or licensed associate~~
15 ~~marriage and family therapist duly licensed under this chapter by virtue of~~
16 ~~additional training and experience is qualified to practice in a specialty~~
17 ~~other than that for which he or she was deemed competent at the time of~~
18 ~~initial licensing and wishes to offer service under the provisions of this~~
19 ~~chapter, he or she is required to submit additional credentials and he or she~~
20 ~~is to be given the opportunity to demonstrate his or her knowledge and~~
21 ~~application thereof in areas deemed relevant to his or her specialty.~~

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23 */s/D. Sullivan*
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