

# SENATE BILL 476

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11r2306  
CF HB 311

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By: **Senator Benson**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2011

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Counselors Home Study – Online Study**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing a provision prohibiting the State Board of Professional  
4 Counselor and Therapists from authorizing home study courses towards  
5 completion of continuing education requirements.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article – Health Occupations  
8 Section 17–504  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article – Health Occupations**

14 17–504.

15 (a) (1) A license or certificate expires on the date set by the Board, unless  
16 the license or certificate is renewed for an additional term as provided in this section.

17 (2) A license or certificate may not be renewed for a term longer than 2  
18 years.

19 (b) At least 1 month before the license or certificate expires, the Board shall  
20 send to the licensee or certificate holder, by first–class mail to the last known address  
21 of the licensee or certificate holder, a renewal notice that states:

22 (1) The date on which the current license or certificate expires;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1                   (2)    The date by which the renewal application must be received by the  
2 Board for the renewal to be issued and mailed before the license or certificate expires;  
3 and

4                   (3)    The amount of the renewal fee.

5                   (c)    Each licensee or certificate holder shall notify the Board of any change in  
6 the address of the licensee or certificate holder.

7                   (d)    Before the license or certificate expires, the licensee or certificate holder  
8 periodically may renew it for an additional 2-year term, if the licensee or certificate  
9 holder:

10                   (1)    Otherwise is entitled to be licensed or certified;

11                   (2)    Pays to the Board the renewal fee set by the Board;

12                   (3)    Submits to the Board a renewal application on the form that the  
13 Board requires; and

14                   (4)    Submits satisfactory evidence of compliance with any continuing  
15 education requirements as required by the Board for license or certificate renewal.

16                   (e)    [The Board may not authorize home study towards the completion of the  
17 continuing education requirements.

18                   (f)] (1)    The Board shall renew the license or certificate of and issue a  
19 renewal license or certificate to each licensee or certificate holder who meets the  
20 requirements of this section.

21                   (2)    The Board shall include the term of the renewal on each renewal  
22 license or certificate that the Board issues.

23                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
24 October 1, 2011.