

SENATE BILL 986

J2

(7lr1895)

ENROLLED BILL

— *Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs/Health and Government Operations* —

Introduced by **Senator Nathan-Pulliam**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this _____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Board of Social Work Examiners – Revisions**

3 FOR the purpose of renaming the graduate social worker license issued by the State Board
4 of Social Work Examiners to be the master social worker license; limiting the number
5 of terms a certain licensed social worker member of the Board may serve; requiring
6 a certain licensed bachelor social worker or licensed master social worker to submit
7 certain information to the Board to obtain approval by the Board to engage in
8 independent practice; requiring the Board to approve an individual, under certain
9 circumstances, to engage in independent practice; authorizing the Board to reject a
10 certain application and require certain additional supervision if the Board makes a
11 certain determination; repealing a provision of law authorizing the Board to accept
12 an alternate method of criminal history records check under certain circumstances;
13 requiring the Criminal Justice Information System Central Repository to provide the
14 Board with a certain revised statement under certain circumstances; altering the

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 factors the Board is required to consider in using certain information obtained from
 2 the Central Repository to determine whether to issue a license; requiring the Board
 3 to include whether a certain licensee is approved to engage in independent practice
 4 on a certain electronic license record; clarifying that certain licensees are prohibited
 5 from engaging in independent practice except under certain circumstances;
 6 prohibiting a licensed master social worker from engaging in independent practice
 7 on or after a certain date; altering certain requirements for the supervision of
 8 licensed master social workers and licensed certified social workers; ~~prohibiting a~~
 9 ~~licensed certified social worker from engaging in independent practice;~~ requiring,
 10 beginning in a certain calendar year and except under certain circumstances, a
 11 licensee that renews a license to ~~submit certain evidence of having completed~~ attest
 12 that the licensee has submitted to a State and national criminal history records
 13 check in accordance with certain provisions of law; requiring the Board, in using
 14 information obtained from the Central Repository to determine whether to take
 15 disciplinary action against a certain licensee, to consider certain factors; authorizing
 16 the Board to renew a license only if a licensee attests that the licensee has submitted
 17 to a State and national criminal history records check; requiring a certain individual
 18 applying to the Board for reactivation, reinstatement, or reissuance of a license to
 19 submit certain evidence of having completed a State and national criminal history
 20 records check in accordance with certain provisions of law; requiring the Board, in
 21 using information obtained from the Central Repository to determine whether to
 22 ~~renew,~~ reactivate, reinstate, or reissue a license, to consider certain factors;
 23 ~~prohibiting the Board from renewing,~~ reactivating, reinstating, or reissuing a license
 24 if the Board has not received certain criminal history records information; altering
 25 the circumstances under which the Board is required to place a licensee on
 26 nonrenewed status; clarifying that certain individuals who have been on inactive
 27 status or nonrenewed status for more than a certain number of years or who
 28 otherwise fail to apply for reactivation or renewal are required to apply for
 29 reissuance; altering the circumstances under which the Board is required to reissue
 30 a license to an individual; authorizing the Board to issue a cease and desist order or
 31 obtain injunctive relief for a violation of certain provisions of law; altering the
 32 manner by which certain licensees are required to make certain disclosures before
 33 providing social work services; establishing certain penalties; altering certain
 34 penalties; prohibiting the use of a certain abbreviation under certain circumstances;
 35 providing for continuity of licensure for certain licensees licensed by the Board on a
 36 certain date; authorizing certain individuals to apply for the reactivation,
 37 reinstatement, or reissuance of a certain license under certain circumstances;
 38 requiring the Board to adopt certain regulations on or before a certain date;
 39 providing for a delayed effective date for certain provisions of this Act; defining
 40 certain terms; altering certain definitions; making conforming changes; providing for
 41 the construction of certain provisions of this Act; and generally relating to the State
 42 Board of Social Work Examiners.

43 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

44 Article – Health Occupations

45 Section 19–101, 19–202(a)(2) and (3), (d), and (g)(5), 19–302, 19–302.2, 19–306
 46 through 19–309, 19–318, 19–402, and 19–407

1 Annotated Code of Maryland
2 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

3 BY adding to
4 Article – Health Occupations
5 Section 19–316.1
6 Annotated Code of Maryland
7 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

10 **Article – Health Occupations**

11 19–101.

12 (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

13 (b) “Board” means the State Board of Social Work Examiners.

14 (c) “Certified” means having demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Board that
15 the individual has completed 2 years of supervised social work practice as defined in §
16 19–302(d) or (e) of this title.

17 **(D) “INDEPENDENT PRACTICE” MEANS TO PRACTICE BACHELOR SOCIAL**
18 **WORK OR MASTER SOCIAL WORK WITHOUT THE REQUIREMENT OF SUPERVISION BY**
19 **ANOTHER SOCIAL WORKER.**

20 **[(d)] (E)** “License” means, unless the context requires otherwise, one of four
21 types of licenses issued by the Board authorizing an individual to practice:

22 (1) Bachelor social work;

23 (2) **[Graduate] MASTER** social work;

24 (3) Certified social work; or

25 (4) Certified social work–clinical.

26 **[(e)] (F)** “Licensed bachelor social worker” means an individual licensed by the
27 Board to practice bachelor social work.

28 **[(f)] (G)** “Licensed certified social worker” means an individual licensed by the
29 Board to practice certified social work.

1 [(g)] (H) “Licensed certified social worker–clinical” means an individual licensed
2 by the Board to practice clinical social work.

3 [(h)] (I) “Licensed graduate social worker” means an individual licensed by the
4 Board, ~~ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 2017~~ ~~DECEMBER 31, 2017~~ JUNE 30, 2018, to
5 practice graduate social work.

6 (J) “**LICENSED MASTER SOCIAL WORKER**” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL
7 LICENSED BY THE BOARD, ON OR AFTER ~~OCTOBER 1, 2017~~ ~~JANUARY 1, 2018~~ JULY
8 1, 2018, TO PRACTICE MASTER SOCIAL WORK.

9 [(i)] (K) “Practice bachelor social work” means to [practice social work] USE
10 THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING REQUIRED UNDER § 19–302(B) OF THIS TITLE TO:

11 (1) [Under] PRACTICE SOCIAL WORK UNDER the supervision of a
12 licensed certified social worker, licensed certified social worker–clinical, [or] licensed
13 [graduate] MASTER social worker, OR LICENSED BACHELOR SOCIAL WORKER who
14 meets the conditions specified in regulations; [and] OR

15 (2) Utilizing the education and training required under § 19–302(b) of this
16 title.]

17 (2) **IF APPROVED BY THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 19–302(F)**
18 **OF THIS TITLE, ENGAGE IN INDEPENDENT PRACTICE.**

19 [(j)] (L) ~~(1)~~ “Practice certified social work” means to USE THE EDUCATION,
20 TRAINING, AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED UNDER § 19–302(D) OF THIS TITLE TO
21 practice social work [utilizing the education, training, and experience required under §
22 19–302(d) of this title].

23 ~~(2) “PRACTICE CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORK” INCLUDES:~~

24 ~~(I) FORMULATING A DIAGNOSIS UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A~~
25 ~~LICENSED CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER–CLINICAL;~~

26 ~~(II) TREATING BIOPSYCHOSOCIAL CONDITIONS; AND~~

27 ~~(III) TREATING MENTAL DISORDERS AND PROVIDING~~
28 ~~PSYCHOTHERAPY UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A LICENSED CERTIFIED SOCIAL~~
29 ~~WORKER–CLINICAL.~~

30 [(k)] (M) ~~(1)~~ “Practice clinical social work” means to USE THE SPECIALIZED
31 EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED UNDER § 19–302(E) OF THIS

1 TITLE TO practice social work [utilizing the specialized education, training, and experience
2 required under § 19–302(e) of this title].

3 ~~(2) “PRACTICE CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK” INCLUDES:~~

4 ~~(I) EVALUATING, DIAGNOSING, AND TREATING~~
5 ~~BIOPSYCHOSOCIAL CONDITIONS, MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL CONDITIONS AND~~
6 ~~IMPAIRMENTS, AND MENTAL DISORDERS AS DEFINED IN § 10-101 OF THE~~
7 ~~HEALTH GENERAL ARTICLE;~~

8 ~~(II) PETITIONING FOR EMERGENCY EVALUATION UNDER TITLE~~
9 ~~10, SUBTITLE 6, PART IV OF THE HEALTH GENERAL ARTICLE; AND~~

10 ~~(III) PROVIDING PSYCHOTHERAPY.~~

11 [1] (N) ~~(1)~~ “Practice graduate social work” means, ON OR BEFORE
12 ~~SEPTEMBER 31, 2017~~ ~~DECEMBER 31, 2017~~ JUNE 30, 2018, to HAVE USED THE
13 EDUCATION AND TRAINING REQUIRED TO OBTAIN A MASTER SOCIAL WORK LICENSE
14 UNDER § 19–302(C) OF THIS TITLE TO practice social work[:

15 (1) Under] UNDER the supervision of a licensed certified social worker,
16 licensed certified social worker–clinical, or licensed graduate social worker who meets the
17 conditions specified in regulations[; and

18 (2) Utilizing the education and training required under § 19–302(c) of this
19 title].

20 ~~(2) “PRACTICE GRADUATE SOCIAL WORK” INCLUDES HAVING:~~

21 ~~(I) FORMULATED A DIAGNOSIS UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A~~
22 ~~LICENSED CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER CLINICAL;~~

23 ~~(II) TREATED BIOPSYCHOSOCIAL CONDITIONS; AND~~

24 ~~(III) TREATED MENTAL DISORDERS AND PROVIDED~~
25 ~~PSYCHOTHERAPY UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A LICENSED CERTIFIED SOCIAL~~
26 ~~WORKER CLINICAL.~~

27 (O) ~~(1)~~ “PRACTICE MASTER SOCIAL WORK” MEANS TO USE THE
28 EDUCATION AND TRAINING REQUIRED UNDER § 19–302(C) OF THIS TITLE TO:

29 (1) ~~(1)~~ PRACTICE SOCIAL WORK UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A
30 LICENSED CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER, LICENSED CERTIFIED SOCIAL

1 WORKER-CLINICAL, OR LICENSED MASTER SOCIAL WORKER WHO MEETS THE
2 CONDITIONS SPECIFIED IN REGULATIONS; OR

3 ~~(2)~~ ~~(H)~~ IF APPROVED BY THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH §
4 19-302(F) OF THIS TITLE, ENGAGE IN INDEPENDENT PRACTICE.

5 ~~(2)~~ ~~“PRACTICE MASTER SOCIAL WORK” INCLUDES:~~

6 ~~(I)~~ ~~FORMULATING A DIAGNOSIS UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A~~
7 ~~LICENSED CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER-CLINICAL;~~

8 ~~(H)~~ ~~TREATING BIOPSYCHOSOCIAL CONDITIONS; AND~~

9 ~~(H)~~ ~~TREATING MENTAL DISORDERS AND PROVIDING~~
10 ~~PSYCHOTHERAPY UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A LICENSED CERTIFIED SOCIAL~~
11 ~~WORKER-CLINICAL.~~

12 [(m)] (P) (1) “Practice social work” means to apply the theories, knowledge,
13 procedures, methods, or ethics derived from [a formal educational] RECEIVING A
14 BACCALAUREATE OR MASTER’S DEGREE FROM A program in social work THAT IS
15 ACCREDITED BY OR A CANDIDATE FOR ACCREDITATION BY THE COUNCIL ON SOCIAL
16 WORK EDUCATION, OR AN EQUIVALENT ORGANIZATION APPROVED BY THE
17 COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION, to restore or enhance social functioning of
18 individuals, couples, families, groups, organizations, or communities through:

19 (i) Assessment;

20 (ii) Planning;

21 (iii) Intervention;

22 (iv) Evaluation of intervention plans;

23 (v) Case management;

24 (vi) Information and referral;

25 (vii) Counseling that does not include diagnosis or treatment of
26 mental disorders;

27 (viii) Advocacy;

28 (ix) Consultation;

29 (x) Education;

- 1 (xi) Research;
- 2 (xii) Community organization; [or]
- 3 (xiii) Development, implementation, and administration of policies,
4 programs, and activities; OR

5 ~~(xiv) BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES, INCLUDING THE~~
6 ~~TREATMENT OF SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS; OR~~

7 ~~(xv) (xiv) SUPERVISION OF OTHER SOCIAL WORKERS AS SET~~
8 ~~FORTH IN REGULATIONS.~~

9 ¶(2) For an individual licensed as a graduate social worker ON OR BEFORE
10 DECEMBER 31, 2017 JUNE 30, 2018, OR AS A MASTER SOCIAL WORKER, “practice
11 social work” also includes:

12 (i) Supervision of other social workers if the graduate social worker
13 meets the requirements set out in regulations;

14 (ii) Formulating a diagnosis, under the ~~direct~~ supervision of a
15 licensed certified social worker–clinical;

16 (iii) Treatment of biopsychosocial conditions; and

17 (iv) Treatment of ~~mental disorders~~ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
18 DISORDERS, INCLUDING SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS, ADDICTIVE DISORDERS, AND
19 MENTAL DISORDERS, and the provision of psychotherapy under the ~~direct~~ supervision of
20 a licensed certified social worker–clinical.

21 (3) For an individual licensed as a certified social worker, “practice social
22 work” also includes:

23 (i) Supervision of other social workers;

24 (ii) Formulating a diagnosis, under the ~~direct~~ supervision of a
25 licensed certified social worker–clinical;

26 (iii) Treatment of biopsychosocial conditions; and

27 (iv) Treatment of ~~mental disorders~~ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
28 DISORDERS, INCLUDING SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS, ADDICTIVE DISORDERS, AND
29 MENTAL DISORDERS, and the provision of psychotherapy under the ~~direct~~ supervision of
30 a licensed certified social worker–clinical.

(4) For an individual licensed as a certified social worker–clinical, “practice social work” also includes:

(i) Supervision of other social workers;

(ii) Evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of biopsychosocial conditions, mental and emotional conditions and impairments, and ~~mental disorders~~ **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DISORDERS, INCLUDING SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS, ADDICTIVE DISORDERS, AND MENTAL DISORDERS,** as defined in § 10–101(i) of the Health – General Article;

(iii) Petitioning for emergency evaluation under Title 10, Subtitle 6 of the Health – General Article; and

(iv) The provision of psychotherapy.†

~~(2)~~ **(5) “PRACTICE SOCIAL WORK” INCLUDES USING TECHNOLOGY AS SET FORTH IN REGULATIONS.**

(Q) “PRIVATE PRACTICE” MEANS THE PROVISION OF PSYCHOTHERAPY BY A LICENSED CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER–CLINICAL WHO ASSUMES RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE NATURE AND QUALITY OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED TO A CLIENT IN:

(1) IN EXCHANGE FOR DIRECT PAYMENT OR THIRD–PARTY REIMBURSEMENT; OR

(2) ON A PRO BONO BASIS AS DETERMINED IN REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD.

~~[(n)]~~ **(R) “Psychotherapy” means the assessment and treatment of mental disorders and behavioral disturbances.**

(S) “REACTIVATION” MEANS THE PROCESS OF OBTAINING A LICENSE LESS THAN 5 YEARS AFTER THE BOARD PLACED AN INDIVIDUAL ON INACTIVE STATUS.

(T) “REINSTATEMENT” MEANS THE PROCESS OF OBTAINING A LICENSE LESS THAN 5 YEARS AFTER THE BOARD PLACED AN INDIVIDUAL ON NONRENEWED STATUS.

(U) “REISSUANCE” MEANS THE PROCESS OF OBTAINING A LICENSE MORE THAN 5 YEARS AFTER THE BOARD PLACED AN INDIVIDUAL ON INACTIVE OR NONRENEWED STATUS.

1 [(o)] (V) “Supervision” means a formalized professional relationship between a
2 supervisor and a supervisee that:

3 (1) Provides evaluation and direction of the supervisee; and

4 (2) Promotes continued development of the supervisee’s knowledge, skills,
5 and abilities to provide social work services in an ethical and competent manner.

6 19–202.

7 (a) (2) Of the 12 Board members:

8 (i) 10 shall be licensed social workers of whom:

9 1. Subject to paragraph (3) of this subsection, 1 is a licensed
10 bachelor social worker;

11 2. Subject to paragraph (3) of this subsection, 1 is a licensed
12 [graduate] MASTER social worker at the time of appointment;

13 3. Subject to paragraph (3) of this subsection, at least 1 is a
14 licensed certified social worker;

15 4. Subject to paragraph (3) of this subsection, at least 4 are
16 licensed certified social workers—clinical;

17 5. 1 is a licensed social worker employed by the Department
18 of Human Resources; and

19 6. Subject to paragraph (3) of this subsection, 1 is a licensed
20 social worker who is:

21 A. Primarily engaged in social worker education at a social
22 work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education; and

23 B. Nominated from a list of names submitted by the deans
24 and directors of the Maryland Social Work Education Programs; and

25 (ii) 2 shall be consumer members.

26 (3) If a licensed bachelor social worker, a licensed [graduate] MASTER
27 social worker, a licensed certified social worker, a licensed certified social worker—clinical,
28 or a licensed social worker is not appointed to the Board under paragraph (2)(i) of this
29 subsection within 3 months of a vacancy, a licensee of any license level shall be appointed
30 immediately if that licensee is qualified to be a member of the Board under subsections (b)
31 and (d) of this section.

1 (d) Except for the licensed bachelor social worker member and the licensed
2 [graduate] **MASTER** social worker member, each social worker member of the Board shall
3 have been licensed in the State for 5 years immediately preceding the appointment and
4 actively employed in the field of social work for at least 3 of the 5 years immediately
5 preceding the appointment.

6 (g) (5) **(I) [A] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS**
7 **PARAGRAPH, A member may not serve more than 2 consecutive full terms.**

8 **(II) A LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER MEMBER WHO IS NOMINATED**
9 **IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (A)(2)(I)6B OF THIS SECTION MAY NOT SERVE**
10 **MORE THAN 1 FULL TERM.**

11 19–302.

12 (a) To obtain a license, an applicant shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the
13 Board that the applicant:

14 (1) Has submitted a complete written application in the form prescribed by
15 the Board;

16 (2) Is at least 18 years old;

17 (3) Is of good moral character;

18 (4) Except as otherwise provided in this title, has successfully passed an
19 examination or examinations prescribed by the Board pertinent to the license sought;

20 (5) Has paid all applicable fees specified by the Board;

21 (6) Has completed a criminal history records check in accordance with §
22 19–302.2 of this subtitle at the applicant’s expense; and

23 (7) Has submitted to an examination if required under § 19–302.3 of this
24 subtitle.

25 (b) To obtain a bachelor social worker license, an applicant shall:

26 (1) Meet the requirements of subsection (a) of this section; and

27 (2) Have received a baccalaureate degree in social work from a program
28 that is accredited or is a candidate for accreditation by the Council on Social Work
29 Education or an equivalent organization approved by the Council on Social Work
30 Education.

1 (c) To obtain a [graduate] MASTER social worker license, an applicant shall:

2 (1) Meet the requirements of subsection (a) of this section; and

3 (2) Have received a master's degree from a program that is accredited or is
4 a candidate for accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education or an equivalent
5 organization approved by the Council on Social Work Education.

6 (d) Except as provided in § 19–302.1 of this subtitle, to obtain a certified social
7 worker license, an applicant shall:

8 (1) Meet the requirements of subsection (a) of this section;

9 (2) Have received a master's degree from a program accredited by the
10 Council on Social Work Education or an equivalent organization approved by the Council
11 on Social Work Education; and

12 (3) Provide in a form prescribed by the Board, documentation of having
13 completed 2 years as a licensee with supervised experience of at least 3,000 hours after
14 receiving the master's degree with a minimum of 100 hours of periodic face-to-face
15 supervision in the practice of social work under the terms and conditions that the Board
16 determines by regulation.

17 (e) Except as provided in § 19–302.1 of this subtitle, to obtain a certified social
18 worker-clinical license, an applicant shall:

19 (1) Meet the requirements of subsection (a) of this section;

20 (2) Have received a master's degree in social work and documentation of
21 completion of 12 academic credits in clinical course work from a program accredited by the
22 Council on Social Work Education or an equivalent organization approved by the Council
23 on Social Work Education, with a minimum of 6 of the 12 academic credits obtained in a
24 master's degree program; and

25 (3) Provide in a form prescribed by the Board, documentation of having
26 completed 2 years as a licensee with supervised experience of at least 3,000 hours, of which
27 1,500 hours are in face-to-face client contact, after receiving the master's degree with a
28 minimum of 144 hours of periodic face-to-face supervision in the assessment, formulation
29 of a diagnostic impression, and treatment of mental disorders and other conditions and the
30 provision of psychotherapy under the terms and conditions that the Board determines by
31 regulation.

32 (F) (1) (I) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS
33 SUBSECTION, TO OBTAIN APPROVAL BY THE BOARD TO ENGAGE IN INDEPENDENT
34 PRACTICE, A LICENSED BACHELOR SOCIAL WORKER OR A LICENSED MASTER SOCIAL
35 WORKER SHALL SUBMIT TO THE BOARD:

1 ~~(H)~~ 1. AN APPLICATION IN THE FORM PRESCRIBED BY THE
2 BOARD;

3 ~~(H)~~ 2. ALL APPLICABLE FEES SPECIFIED BY THE BOARD;
4 AND

5 ~~(H)~~ 3. DOCUMENTATION IN A FORM PRESCRIBED BY THE
6 BOARD OF HAVING COMPLETED AT LEAST 3 YEARS AS A LICENSEE WITH
7 SUPERVISED EXPERIENCE OF AT LEAST 4,500 HOURS AFTER RECEIVING THE
8 BACCALAUREATE OR MASTER'S DEGREE WITH A MINIMUM OF 150 HOURS OF
9 PERIODIC FACE-TO-FACE SUPERVISION UNDER THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS THAT
10 THE BOARD DETERMINES BY REGULATION.

11 (II) IF THE BOARD DETERMINES THAT A LICENSED BACHELOR
12 SOCIAL WORKER OR A LICENSED MASTER SOCIAL WORKER WHO APPLIES TO THE
13 BOARD TO ENGAGE IN THE PRACTICE OF INDEPENDENT PRACTICE HAS NOT
14 COMPLETED THE SUPERVISED EXPERIENCE AS REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH
15 (1)(I)3 OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE BOARD MAY:

16 1. REJECT THE APPLICATION FOR INDEPENDENT
17 PRACTICE; AND

18 2. REQUIRE THE LICENSED BACHELOR SOCIAL WORKER
19 OR THE LICENSED MASTER SOCIAL WORKER TO CONTINUE TO WORK UNDER
20 SUPERVISION AS REQUIRED BY THE BOARD FOR AN ADDITIONAL 1,500 HOURS
21 BEFORE REAPPLYING.

22 (2) THE BOARD SHALL APPROVE AN INDIVIDUAL TO ENGAGE IN
23 INDEPENDENT PRACTICE IF THE INDIVIDUAL:

24 (I) SUBMITS TO THE BOARD:

25 1. AN APPLICATION IN THE FORM PRESCRIBED BY THE
26 BOARD; AND

27 2. ALL APPLICABLE FEES SPECIFIED BY THE BOARD;

28 (II) ON OR BEFORE ~~OCTOBER 1, 2007~~ JANUARY 1, 2008, WAS
29 LICENSED BY THE BOARD AS A LICENSED BACHELOR SOCIAL WORKER OR A
30 LICENSED GRADUATE SOCIAL WORKER; AND

1 **(III) HAS ACTIVELY PRACTICED BACHELOR SOCIAL WORK,**
2 **ACTIVELY PRACTICED GRADUATE SOCIAL WORK, OR ACTIVELY PRACTICED MASTER**
3 **SOCIAL WORK FOR AT LEAST 10 YEARS.**

4 **(3) NOTHING IN THIS SUBSECTION MAY BE CONSTRUED TO PROHIBIT**
5 **AN EMPLOYER FROM REQUIRING SUPERVISION OF A LICENSED BACHELOR SOCIAL**
6 **WORKER OR A LICENSED MASTER SOCIAL WORKER WHO IS APPROVED TO ENGAGE**
7 **IN INDEPENDENT PRACTICE UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.**

8 19-302.2.

9 (a) In this section, "Central Repository" means the Criminal Justice Information
10 System Central Repository of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

11 (b) As part of an application to the Central Repository for a State and national
12 criminal history records check, an applicant shall submit to the Central Repository:

13 (1) A complete set of legible fingerprints taken on forms approved by the
14 Director of the Central Repository and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

15 (2) The fee authorized under § 10-221(b)(7) of the Criminal Procedure
16 Article for access to State criminal history records; and

17 (3) The processing fee required by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for
18 a national criminal history records check.

19 (c) In accordance with §§ 10-201 through 10-228 of the Criminal Procedure
20 Article, the Central Repository shall forward to the Board and to the applicant the criminal
21 history record information of the applicant.

22 [(d) If an applicant has made two or more unsuccessful attempts at securing
23 legible fingerprints, the Board may accept an alternate method of criminal history records
24 check as permitted by the Director of the Central Repository and the Director of the Federal
25 Bureau of Investigation.]

26 **(D) IF CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION IS REPORTED TO THE**
27 **CENTRAL REPOSITORY AFTER THE DATE OF THE INITIAL CRIMINAL HISTORY**
28 **RECORDS CHECK, THE CENTRAL REPOSITORY SHALL PROVIDE TO THE BOARD A**
29 **REVISED PRINTED STATEMENT OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S STATE CRIMINAL HISTORY**
30 **RECORD.**

31 (e) (1) Information obtained from the Central Repository under this section:

32 (i) Is confidential and may not be disseminated; and

1 (ii) May be used only for the licensing purpose authorized by this
2 title.

3 (2) In using information obtained from the Central Repository under this
4 section to determine whether to issue a license, the Board shall consider:

5 (i) The age at which the crime was committed;

6 **(II) THE NATURE OF THE CRIME;**

7 ~~[(ii)]~~ **(III)** The circumstances surrounding the crime;

8 ~~[(iii)]~~ **(IV)** The length of time that has passed since the crime was
9 committed;

10 ~~[(iv)]~~ **(V)** Subsequent work history;

11 ~~[(v)]~~ **(VI)** Employment and character references; and

12 ~~[(vi)]~~ **(VII)** Other evidence that demonstrates whether the applicant
13 poses a threat to the public health or safety.

14 (f) The subject of a criminal history records check under this section may contest
15 the contents of the printed statement issued by the Central Repository as provided in §
16 10–223 of the Criminal Procedure Article.

17 19–306.

18 (a) The Board shall maintain on its Web site a roster of all licensees who meet the
19 requirements of this title.

20 (b) The Board shall include on each electronic license record:

21 (1) The kind of license;

22 (2) The full name of the licensee;

23 **(3) IF THE LICENSEE IS A LICENSED BACHELOR SOCIAL WORKER OR**
24 **A LICENSED MASTER SOCIAL WORKER, WHETHER THE LICENSEE IS APPROVED TO**
25 **ENGAGE IN INDEPENDENT PRACTICE;**

26 ~~[(3)]~~ **(4)** A license number;

27 ~~[(4)]~~ **(5)** The license status;

28 ~~[(5)]~~ **(6)** The expiration date; and

1 ~~[(6)] (7)~~ The original date of issuance.

2 19–307.

3 (a) Subject to the provisions of subsections (b) and (c) of this section, a license
4 authorizes the licensee to practice social work while the license is effective.

5 (b) A licensed social worker may practice social work only within the scope of the
6 specific type of license issued by the Board.

7 (c) (1) A licensed bachelor social worker may not:

8 [(i) Practice social work without the supervision of a licensed
9 certified social worker, licensed certified social worker–clinical, or licensed graduate social
10 worker who meets the requirements specified in the regulations;]

11 **(I) ENGAGE IN INDEPENDENT PRACTICE UNLESS THE**
12 **LICENSED BACHELOR SOCIAL WORKER IS APPROVED BY THE BOARD TO ENGAGE IN**
13 **INDEPENDENT PRACTICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 19–302(F) OF THIS SUBTITLE;**

14 (ii) Make a clinical diagnosis of a mental or emotional disorder;

15 (iii) Provide psychotherapy; or

16 (iv) Engage in private practice.

17 (2) A licensed ~~[graduate]~~ **MASTER** social worker may not:

18 [(i) Practice graduate social work without the supervision of a
19 licensed certified social worker, licensed certified social worker–clinical, or licensed
20 graduate social worker who meets the requirements specified in the regulations;]

21 **(I) ENGAGE IN INDEPENDENT PRACTICE UNLESS THE**
22 **LICENSED MASTER SOCIAL WORKER IS APPROVED BY THE BOARD TO ENGAGE IN**
23 **INDEPENDENT PRACTICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 19–302(F) OF THIS SUBTITLE;**

24 (ii) Treat mental or emotional disorders or provide psychotherapy
25 without the ~~[direct]~~ supervision of a licensed certified social worker–clinical;

26 (iii) Diagnose a mental disorder without the ~~[direct]~~ supervision of a
27 licensed certified social worker–clinical; ~~[or]~~

1 (iv) [Engage] ~~ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 2019~~ DECEMBER
 2 31, 2019, ENGAGE in private practice without the [direct] supervision of a licensed
 3 certified social worker–clinical; **OR**

4 (v) ~~ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2019~~ JANUARY 1, 2020, ENGAGE
 5 **IN PRIVATE PRACTICE.**

6 (3) A licensed certified social worker may not:

7 (i) Treat mental or emotional disorders or provide psychotherapy
 8 without the ~~direct~~ supervision of a licensed certified social worker–clinical; ~~for~~

9 (ii) Diagnose a mental disorder without the [direct] supervision of a
 10 licensed certified social worker–clinical; ~~OR~~

11 ~~(iii) ENGAGE IN PRIVATE PRACTICE WITHOUT THE SUPERVISION~~
 12 ~~OF A LICENSED CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER–CLINICAL.~~

13 19–308.

14 (a) A license expires on the date set by the Board, unless the license is renewed
 15 for an additional term as provided in this section. A license may not be renewed for a term
 16 longer than 2 years.

17 (b) At least 1 month before the license expires, the Board shall send to the
 18 licensee, at the last known electronic or physical address of the licensee, a renewal notice
 19 that states:

20 (1) The date on which the current license expires;

21 (2) The date by which the renewal application must be received by the
 22 Board for the renewal to be issued and mailed before the license expires; and

23 (3) The amount of the renewal fee.

24 (c) Each licensee shall notify the Board of any change in the address of the
 25 licensee within 60 days after the change occurs.

26 (d) Before the license expires, the licensee periodically may renew it for an
 27 additional 2–year term, if the licensee:

28 (1) Otherwise is entitled to be licensed;

29 (2) Pays to the Board the appropriate renewal fee specified by this subtitle;

30 ~~and~~

1 (3) Submits to the Board:

2 (i) A renewal application on the form that the Board requires; ~~and~~

3 (ii) Satisfactory evidence of compliance with any continuing
4 education requirement set under this section for license renewal; AND

5 **(4) ~~(H)~~ BEGINNING IN CALENDAR YEAR 2021 AND EXCEPT AS**
6 **PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (G)(3) OF THIS SECTION, ~~SATISFACTORY EVIDENCE OF~~**
7 **~~HAVING COMPLETED~~ ATTESTS THAT THE LICENSEE HAS SUBMITTED TO A STATE**
8 **AND NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK IN ACCORDANCE WITH §**
9 **19-302.2 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

10 (e) (1) **[The] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (G) OF THIS SECTION, THE** Board
11 shall renew the license of and issue a renewal certificate to each licensee who meets the
12 requirements of this section.

13 (2) The Board shall maintain the same information on each licensee.

14 (f) The Board may not renew a bachelor social worker license or a [graduate]
15 MASTER social worker license of a licensee who holds a baccalaureate degree or master's
16 degree from a program that was a candidate for accreditation but was denied accreditation.

17 **(G) (1) ON RECEIPT OF THE CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION**
18 **OF AN APPLICANT FOR LICENSURE FORWARDED TO THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE**
19 **WITH § 19-302.2 OF THIS SUBTITLE, IN DETERMINING WHETHER ~~TO RENEW A~~**
20 **~~LICENSE~~ DISCIPLINARY ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN, BASED ON THE CRIMINAL**
21 **RECORD INFORMATION, AGAINST A LICENSEE WHO RENEWED A LICENSE, THE**
22 **BOARD SHALL CONSIDER:**

23 (I) THE AGE AT WHICH THE CRIME WAS COMMITTED;

24 (II) THE NATURE OF THE CRIME;

25 (III) THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE CRIME;

26 (IV) THE LENGTH OF TIME THAT HAS PASSED SINCE THE CRIME;

27 (V) SUBSEQUENT WORK HISTORY;

28 (VI) EMPLOYMENT AND CHARACTER REFERENCES; AND

29 (VII) ANY OTHER EVIDENCE THAT DEMONSTRATES WHETHER
30 THE APPLICANT POSES A THREAT TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH OR SAFETY.

1 **(2) THE BOARD MAY ~~NOT~~ RENEW A LICENSE ~~IF THE CRIMINAL~~
 2 ~~HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION REQUIRED~~ ONLY IF THE LICENSEE ATTESTS THAT
 3 THE LICENSEE HAS SUBMITTED TO A CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK UNDER
 4 § 19-302.2 OF THIS SUBTITLE HAS NOT BEEN RECEIVED.**

5 **(3) UNLESS OTHERWISE REQUIRED, A RENEWAL APPLICANT WHO
 6 PREVIOUSLY HAS COMPLETED THE CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK AS
 7 REQUIRED FOR THE BOARD'S LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION PROCESS DOES NOT
 8 HAVE TO SUBMIT TO A SUBSEQUENT CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK FOR
 9 LICENSE RENEWAL.**

10 19-309.

11 (a) (1) [Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, the] **THE**
 12 Board shall place a licensee on inactive status for a maximum of 5 years, if the licensee
 13 submits to the Board:

14 (i) A written application for inactive status in a form prescribed by
 15 the Board; and

16 (ii) The inactive status fee set by the Board.

17 (2) The Board shall provide a licensee who has complied with the
 18 requirements of paragraph (1) of this subsection with written notification of:

19 (i) The date that the license expired;

20 (ii) The date that the licensee's inactive status becomes effective;

21 (iii) The date that the licensee's inactive status expires; and

22 (iv) The consequences of not resuming active status before expiration
 23 of inactive status.

24 (3) [The] **SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION, THE** Board
 25 shall reactivate a license for an individual on inactive status who:

26 (i) Applies to the Board for reactivation of the license;

27 (ii) Complies with the [renewal] **REACTIVATION** requirements that
 28 are in effect when the individual requests the reactivation of the license;

29 (iii) Has completed the number of credit hours of approved continuing
 30 education in social work set by the Board in the 2 years preceding the licensee's application
 31 for [an active license] **REACTIVATION**;

1 (iv) Pays to the Board the reactivation processing fee set by the
2 Board; [and]

3 (v) SUBMITS TO THE BOARD SATISFACTORY EVIDENCE OF
4 HAVING COMPLETED A STATE AND NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK
5 IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 19–302.2 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND

6 [(v)] (VI) Has been on inactive status for less than 5 years.

7 (b) (1) [Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, the] THE Board
8 shall place a licensee on nonrenewed status for a maximum of 5 years if the licensee[:

9 (i) Does] DOES not renew the licensee’s license under § 19–308 OF
10 THIS SUBTITLE OR APPLY FOR INACTIVE STATUS UNDER subsection (a) of this section[;
11 and

12 (ii) Submits to the Board:

13 1. A written application for nonrenewed status in a form
14 prescribed by the Board; and

15 2. The applicable fee set by the Board].

16 (2) The Board shall provide a licensee who [has complied with the
17 requirements of paragraph (1) of this subsection] DOES NOT RENEW THE LICENSEE’S
18 LICENSE UNDER § 19–308 OF THIS SUBTITLE OR APPLY FOR INACTIVE STATUS
19 UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION with written notification of:

20 (i) The date that the license expired;

21 [(ii) The date that the inactive status expired;]

22 [(iii)] (II) The date that the licensee’s nonrenewed status becomes
23 effective;

24 [(iv)] (III) The date that the licensee’s nonrenewed status expires;
25 and

26 [(v)] (IV) The fact that the licensee may not practice social work in
27 the State.

28 (3) [The] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION, THE Board
29 shall [reactivate] REINSTATE a license for an individual on nonrenewed status who:

1 (i) Applies to the Board for [reactivation] REINSTATEMENT of the
2 license;

3 (ii) Pays to the Board the [reactivation] REINSTATEMENT
4 processing fee set by the Board;

5 (iii) Complies with the [renewal] REINSTATEMENT requirements
6 that are in effect when the individual requests the [reactivation] REINSTATEMENT of the
7 license;

8 (iv) Has completed the number of credit hours of approved continuing
9 education in social work set by the Board in the 2 years preceding the individual's
10 application for [an active license] REINSTATEMENT; [and]

11 (v) SUBMITS TO THE BOARD SATISFACTORY EVIDENCE OF
12 HAVING COMPLETED A STATE AND NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK
13 IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 19-302.2 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND

14 [(v)] (vi) Has been on nonrenewed status for less than 5 years.

15 (c) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS BEEN ON INACTIVE STATUS OR NONRENEWED
16 STATUS FOR MORE THAN 5 YEARS OR WHO OTHERWISE FAILS TO APPLY FOR
17 REACTIVATION UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(3) OF THIS SECTION OR REINSTATEMENT
18 UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(3) OF THIS SECTION SHALL APPLY FOR REISSUANCE IN
19 ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION.

20 [(c)] (d) [Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the] SUBJECT
21 TO SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION, THE Board shall [reactivate the] REISSUE A
22 license [of] TO an individual who:

23 (1) Applies to the Board for [reactivation] REISSUANCE of the license;

24 (2) Pays to the Board the [reactivation] REISSUANCE processing fee set by
25 the Board and any other APPROPRIATE fees required by the Board;

26 (3) Provides any documentation required by the Board, in a form
27 prescribed by the Board; [and]

28 (4) MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF § 19-302(A) OF THIS SUBTITLE;

29 (5) SUBMITS TO THE BOARD SATISFACTORY EVIDENCE OF HAVING
30 COMPLETED A STATE AND NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK IN
31 ACCORDANCE WITH § 19-302.2 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND

1 ~~[(4)]~~ **(6)** **(I)** Passes the respective examination required for initial
2 licensure; OR

3 **(II)** **1.** **HOLDS AN ACTIVE LICENSE TO PRACTICE SOCIAL**
4 **WORK IN ANOTHER STATE AT A LEVEL OF LICENSURE THAT IS EQUIVALENT TO A**
5 **LICENSED BACHELOR SOCIAL WORKER, LICENSED MASTER SOCIAL WORKER,**
6 **CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER, OR CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER–CLINICAL; AND**

7 **2.** **HAS PASSED AN EXAMINATION IN THAT STATE AS A**
8 **CONDITION OF LICENSURE.**

9 **(E)** **(1)** **ON RECEIPT OF THE CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION**
10 **OF AN APPLICANT FOR LICENSURE FORWARDED TO THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE**
11 **WITH § 19–302.2 OF THIS SUBTITLE, IN DETERMINING WHETHER TO REACTIVATE,**
12 **REINSTATE, OR REISSUE A LICENSE, THE BOARD SHALL CONSIDER:**

13 **(I)** **THE AGE AT WHICH THE CRIME WAS COMMITTED;**

14 **(II)** **THE NATURE OF THE CRIME;**

15 **(III)** **THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE CRIME;**

16 **(IV)** **THE LENGTH OF TIME THAT HAS PASSED SINCE THE CRIME;**

17 **(V)** **SUBSEQUENT WORK HISTORY;**

18 **(VI)** **EMPLOYMENT AND CHARACTER REFERENCES; AND**

19 **(VII)** **ANY OTHER EVIDENCE THAT DEMONSTRATES WHETHER**
20 **THE APPLICANT POSES A THREAT TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH OR SAFETY.**

21 **(2)** **THE BOARD MAY NOT REACTIVATE, REINSTATE, OR REISSUE A**
22 **LICENSE IF THE CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER §**
23 **19–302.2 OF THIS SUBTITLE HAS NOT BEEN RECEIVED.**

24 **19–316.1.**

25 **THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A CEASE AND DESIST ORDER OR OBTAIN INJUNCTIVE**
26 **RELIEF FOR A VIOLATION OF ANY PROVISION OF § 19–301 OF THIS SUBTITLE OR §§**
27 **19–401 THROUGH 19–403 OF THIS TITLE.**

28 19–318.

1 (a) Before a licensee in a private individual, partnership, or group practice
2 provides social work services to a client, the licensee shall provide to the client the following
3 disclosures:

4 (1) The licensee's professional identity;

5 (2) The services which are or may be provided by the licensee and the fees
6 for each service or the hourly rate; and

7 (3) Sufficient information for a patient to give informed consent regarding
8 the nature of the services to be provided.

9 (b) The manner of providing these disclosures shall be as follows:

10 (1) The licensee's professional identity may be provided by [business card
11 or display of license in a conspicuous location] **DIRECTING THE CLIENT TO THE LICENSE
12 VERIFICATION SECTION ON THE BOARD'S WEB SITE;**

13 (2) The licensee's services and fees may be provided by documented
14 discussion or printed fee schedule; and

15 (3) Informed consent may be provided by documented discussion or a
16 written form signed by the client which is kept in the client's file.

17 19-402.

18 Unless authorized to practice social work under this title, a person may not:

19 (1) Represent to the public that the person is a licensed social worker; or

20 (2) Use any title, abbreviation, sign, card, or other representation that the
21 person is a licensed social worker, including the use of the words "social worker" or "social
22 work" and the use of the abbreviations "LBSW", "LGSW", "**LMSW**", "LCSW", or
23 "LCSW-C".

24 19-407.

25 **(A)** A person who violates any provision of this subtitle **OR § 19-301 OF THIS**
26 **TITLE** is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$5,000
27 or imprisonment not exceeding 2 years **OR BOTH**.

28 **(B)** **A PERSON WHO VIOLATES ANY PROVISION OF THIS SUBTITLE OR §**
29 **19-301 OF THIS TITLE IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$50,000 TO BE**
30 **ASSESSED BY THE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE**
31 **BOARD.**

1 (C) EACH VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE IS A SEPARATE OFFENSE.

2 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

3 (1) an individual licensed as a licensed graduate social worker by the State
 4 Board of Social Work Examiners on ~~September 30, 2017~~ ~~December 31, 2017~~ June 30, 2018,
 5 shall be considered, in all respects, licensed as a licensed master social worker by the Board
 6 and, subject to the provisions of this Act, for the remainder of the term of the individual's
 7 license; and

8 (2) an individual licensed as a licensed graduate social worker on or before
 9 ~~September 30, 2017~~ ~~December 31, 2017~~ June 30, 2018, may apply for reactivation,
 10 reinstatement, or reissuance of a license to practice master social work in accordance with
 11 the applicable provision of § 19-309 of the Health Occupations Article, as enacted by
 12 Section 1 of this Act, as if the individual had been licensed as a licensed master social
 13 worker by the Board.

14 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before ~~December 31,~~
 15 ~~2018~~ June 30, 2018, the State Board of Social Work Examiners shall adopt regulations to
 16 implement Section 1 of this Act.

17 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 1 of this Act shall take
 18 effect ~~January 1, 2018~~ July 1, 2018.

19 SECTION ~~3~~ 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in
 20 Section 4 of this Act, this Act shall take effect October 1, 2017.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.