

# HOUSE BILL 755

J2

4r2834  
CF SB 106

---

By: **Delegate Bhandari**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2024

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

---

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 23, 2024

---

## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Board of Social Work Examiners – Board Membership and Certified Social**  
3 **Worker Licenses**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the membership of the State Board of Social Work Examiners;  
5 repealing obsolete references to certified social worker licenses; and generally  
6 relating to the State Board of Social Work Examiners.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
8 Article – Health Occupations  
9 Section 19–101(a) and (b)  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
13 Article – Health Occupations  
14 Section 19–202(a), 19–302.1, and 19–309(d)(6)  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Health Occupations**

20 19–101.

---

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.



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

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

3 19–202.

4 (a) (1) The Board consists of 12 members.

5 (2) Of the 12 Board members:

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

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

9 2. Subject to paragraph (3) of this subsection, 1 is a licensed  
10 master social worker at the time of appointment;

11 3. Subject to paragraph (3) of this subsection, at least 1 is **[a]:**

12 **A. A licensed certified social worker; OR**

13 **B. A LICENSED MASTER SOCIAL WORKER WHO IS**  
14 **APPROVED FOR INDEPENDENT PRACTICE;**

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 Services; 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 master social worker, a**  
27 **licensed certified social worker, a licensed certified social worker—clinical, or a licensed**  
28 **social worker]** **LICENSEE OF THE SPECIFIED LICENSE CATEGORY** is not appointed to the

1 Board under paragraph (2)(i) of this subsection within 3 months of a vacancy, a licensee of  
2 any license category shall be appointed immediately if that licensee is qualified to be a  
3 member of the Board under subsections (b) and (d) of this section.

4 (4) The Governor shall appoint all members of the Board with the advice  
5 of the Secretary and the advice and consent of the Senate.

6 (5) The Governor shall appoint all social work members of the Board from  
7 a list of nominees containing names submitted by:

8 (i) Professional social work associations in the State;

9 (ii) Any person who provides a statement of nomination signed by at  
10 least 15 social workers licensed in the State;

11 (iii) The secretaries of public agencies of the State where social  
12 workers are employed; or

13 (iv) The corporate executive officers or executive directors of private  
14 organizations where social workers are employed.

15 19–302.1.

16 To obtain a [certified social worker license or a] certified social worker–clinical  
17 license, an out–of–state applicant shall:

18 (1) Meet the requirements of § 19–302(a) of this subtitle;

19 (2) Be licensed or registered to practice social work in another state under  
20 a category of licensure that is equivalent to a [certified social worker license or a] certified  
21 social worker–clinical license;

22 (3) Have passed an examination in that state as a condition of licensure;  
23 and

24 (4) Have performed at least 1,000 hours of compensated social work  
25 practice per year for 5 years out of the 10 years preceding application to the Board.

26 19–309.

27 (d) Subject to subsection (e) of this section, the Board shall reissue a license to an  
28 individual who:

29 (6) (i) Passes the respective examination required for initial licensure;  
30 or

31 (ii) 1. Holds an active license to practice social work in another

