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**By: Delegates Hubbard and Guns**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 1996

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 5, 1996

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Occupations - Certified Professional Counselors and Marriage and Family**  
3 **Therapists - Authorized to Practice**

4 FOR the purpose of clarifying that a certified professional counselor is authorized to  
5 practice professional counseling while the certificate is in effect; clarifying that a  
6 certified marriage and family therapist is authorized to practice marriage and family  
7 therapy while the certificate is in effect; and generally relating to professional  
8 counselors and marriage and family therapists.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article - Health Occupations  
11 Section 17-103  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

14 BY adding to  
15 Article - Health Occupations  
16 Section 17-104  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

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

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1           **Article - Health Occupations**

2 17-103.

3           This title does not[:

4                   (1) Limit] LIMIT the right of an individual to practice a health occupation  
5 that the individual is authorized to practice under this article[; or

6                   (2) Prohibit or authorize the practice of professional counseling].

7 17-104.

8           (A) A CERTIFICATE TO PRACTICE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING AUTHORIZES  
9 THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER TO PRACTICE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING WHILE THE  
10 CERTIFICATE IS EFFECTIVE.

11           (B) A CERTIFICATE TO PRACTICE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY  
12 AUTHORIZES THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER TO PRACTICE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY  
13 THERAPY WHILE THE CERTIFICATE IS EFFECTIVE.

14           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
15 October 1, 1996.