

BY: Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1403
(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike in its entirety line 2 and substitute:

“Health Occupations - Professional Counselors-Clinical and Professional Counselors-Marriage and Family Therapist-Clinical - Licensure and Regulation”;

strike beginning with “altering” in line 3 down through “counseling” in line 13 and substitute “establishing requirements for the licensure of professional counselors-clinical and professional counselors-marriage and family therapist-clinical; altering the membership of the State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors; altering certain duties and powers of the Board; excluding certain persons from the requirements of licensure under certain circumstances; altering the circumstances under which the requirements of Title 17 of the Health - General Article may be waived; prohibiting a person from providing false information under certain circumstances; extending certain evidentiary privileges to clients of professional counselors to include communications between the client and the supervisee of the professional counselor; providing for the construction of Title 17 of the Health - General Article; defining certain terms; making stylistic changes; requiring the State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors to make a certain assessment and report to the General Assembly on the results of its assessment on or before a certain date and make recommendations to the General Assembly on or before a certain date regarding the licensing of certain certified professional counselors-alcohol and drug; and generally relating to the licensure and regulation of professional counselors”;

and strike in their entirety lines 14 through 23, inclusive, and substitute:

“BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health Occupations

Section 17-101, 17-104, 17-202, 17-205, 17-301, 17-302, 17-302.2, 17-303, 17-304, 17-

(Over)

307 through 17-313, 17-316, and 17-401
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1994 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

BY renumbering
Article - Health Occupations
Section 17-302.4 and 17-302.5, respectively
to be Section 17-302.5 and 17-302.6, respectively
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1994 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article - Health Occupations
Section 17-103.1, 17-302.4, and 17-306.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1994 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings
Section 9-109.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1995 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 1 through 4, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 24 on page 1 through line 7 on page 4, inclusive, and substitute:

“SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That
Section(s) 17-302.4 and 17-302.5, respectively, of Article - Health Occupations of the Annotated
Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 17-302.5 and 17-302.6, respectively.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as
follows:

Article - Health Occupations

17-101.

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

(b) “Alcohol and drug counseling” means assisting an individual, family, or group through the client-counselor relationship:

(1) To develop understanding of intrapersonal and interpersonal substance abuse problems;

(2) To define goals relating to substance abuse;

(3) To make decisions relating to substance abuse;

(4) To plan a course of action reflecting the needs, interests, and abilities of the individual, family, or group relating to substance abuse; and

(5) To use informational and community substance abuse resources relating to personal, social, emotional, educational, and vocational development and adjustment.

(c) “Appraisal” means:

(1) Selecting, administering, scoring, and interpreting instruments designed to assess an individual's aptitudes, attitudes, abilities, achievements, interests, and personal characteristics; and

(2) Using nonstandardized methods and techniques for understanding human behavior in relation to coping with, adapting to, or changing life situations.

(d) “Board” means the State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors.

(e) “Certificate” means a certificate issued by the Board to practice professional counseling.

(f) “Certified professional counselor” means a professional counselor who is certified by the Board.

(g) “Counseling” means assisting an individual, family, or group through the client-counselor

(Over)

relationship:

(1) To develop understanding of intrapersonal and interpersonal problems;

(2) To define goals;

(3) To make decisions;

(4) To plan a course of action reflecting the needs, interests, and abilities of the individual, family, or group; and

(5) To use informational and community resources, as these procedures are related to personal, social, emotional, educational, and vocational development and adjustment.

(h) "Marriage and family therapy" means applying marriage and family systems theory, principles, methods, therapeutic techniques, and research in:

(1) Resolving emotional conflict and modifying perception and behavior in the context of marriage and family life; and

(2) The identification and assessment of client needs and the implementation of therapeutic intervention.

(i) (1) "Certified supervised counselor-alcohol and drug" means an individual who is certified by the Board to practice alcohol and drug counseling in the State pursuant to the limitations in § [17-302.4] 17-302.5 of this title.

(2) "Certified associate counselor-alcohol and drug" means an individual who is certified by the Board to practice alcohol and drug counseling in the State pursuant to the limitations in § [17-302.5] 17-302.6 of this title.

(3) "Certified professional counselor-alcohol and drug" means an individual who is certified by the Board to practice alcohol and drug counseling in the State.

(j) “Certified professional counselor-marriage and family therapist” means an individual who is certified by the Board to practice marriage and family therapy in the State.

(k) “Practice alcohol and drug counseling” means to engage professionally and for compensation in alcohol and drug counseling activities while representing oneself to be a certified professional counselor-alcohol and drug, a certified supervised counselor-alcohol and drug, or a certified assistant counselor-alcohol and drug.

(l) “Practice marriage and family therapy” means to engage professionally and for compensation in marriage and family therapy activities while representing oneself to be a certified professional counselor-marriage and family therapist.

(m) “Practice professional counseling” means to engage professionally and for compensation in counseling and appraisal activities while representing oneself to be a professional counselor.

(N) “LICENSE” MEANS A LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD TO PRACTICE:

(1) PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-CLINICAL; OR

(2) PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL.

(O) “LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL” MEANS A PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR LICENSED BY THE BOARD TO PRACTICE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-CLINICAL.

(P) “LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL” MEANS A PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR LICENSED BY THE BOARD TO PRACTICE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL.

(Q) (1) “PRACTICE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-CLINICAL” MEANS TO ENGAGE IN THE BUSINESS OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-CLINICAL FOR COMPENSATION

BY APPLYING CLINICAL COUNSELING THEORIES, METHODS, AND THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS FOR THE ALLEVIATION OF INTERPERSONAL, MENTAL, AND EMOTIONAL CONDITIONS.

(2) "PRACTICE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-CLINICAL" INCLUDES THE RENDERING OF A DIAGNOSIS BASED ON A RECOGNIZED MANUAL OF MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL DISORDERS AND THE USE OF PSYCHOTHERAPY TO TREAT THE DISORDERS.

(R) (1) "PRACTICE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL" MEANS TO ENGAGE IN THE BUSINESS OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL FOR COMPENSATION BY APPLYING CLINICAL COUNSELING THEORIES, METHODS, AND THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS FOR THE ALLEVIATION OF INTERPERSONAL, MENTAL, AND EMOTIONAL CONDITIONS.

(2) "PRACTICE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL" INCLUDES THE RENDERING OF A DIAGNOSIS BASED ON A RECOGNIZED MANUAL OF MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL DISORDERS AND THE USE OF PSYCHOTHERAPY TO TREAT THE DISORDERS.

17-103.1.

THIS TITLE MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO AUTHORIZE ANY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR TO ENGAGE IN THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE, PSYCHIATRY, PSYCHOLOGY, OR SOCIAL WORK.

17-104.

(a) A certificate to practice professional counseling authorizes the certificate holder to practice professional counseling while the certificate is effective.

(b) A certificate to practice marriage and family therapy authorizes the certificate holder to practice marriage and family therapy while the certificate is effective.

(C) A LICENSE TO PRACTICE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-CLINICAL AUTHORIZES THE LICENSE HOLDER TO PRACTICE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-CLINICAL WHILE THE LICENSE IS EFFECTIVE.

17-202.

(a) (1) The Board consists of nine members appointed by the Governor with the advice of the Secretary.

(2) Of the nine Board members:

(i) [Five] THREE shall be certified as professional counselors, including:

1. One who is primarily engaged in professional counselor education;

2. One who is employed in the private sector;

3. One who is employed in the public sector; and

4. [Two] ONE professional [counselors] COUNSELOR at large;

(ii) One shall be a certified professional counselor-marriage and family therapist;

(iii) One shall be a certified professional counselor-alcohol and drug; [and]

(IV) ONE SHALL BE A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL;

(V) ONE SHALL BE A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL; AND

(Over)

[(iv)] (VI) Two shall be consumer members.

(3) The composition of the Board as to the race and sex of its members shall reflect the composition of the population of the State.

(4) The Governor shall appoint the professional counselors from a list submitted to the Governor by the Secretary. Any association representing professional counselors may submit recommendations for Board members to the Secretary.

(b) The consumer members of the Board:

(1) Shall be members of the general public;

(2) May not be or ever have been a certified professional counselor, LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL, OR LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL or in training to become a certified professional counselor, LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL, OR LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL;

(3) May not have a household member who is a certified professional counselor, LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL, OR LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL or in training to become a certified professional counselor, LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL, OR LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL;

(4) May not participate or ever have participated in a commercial or professional field related to professional counseling;

(5) May not have a household member who participates in a commercial or professional field related to professional counseling;

(6) May not have had within 2 years before appointment a substantial financial interest in a person regulated by the Board; and

(7) While members of the Board, may not have a substantial financial interest in a person regulated by the Board.

(c) The certified professional counselor-marriage and family therapy member of the Board shall:

(1) Have a master's or doctoral degree in a marriage and family therapy field; and

(2) Meet the educational and supervised experience requirements of § 17-302 of this title.

(d) The certified professional counselor-alcohol and drug member of the Board shall:

(1) Have a master's or doctoral degree in a health and human services counseling field; and

(2) Meet the educational and supervised experience requirements of § 17-302.3 of this title.

(E) THE LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL MEMBER OF THE BOARD SHALL:

(1) HAVE A MASTER'S OR DOCTORAL DEGREE IN COUNSELING OR RELATED FIELD APPROVED BY THE BOARD; AND

(2) MEET THE EDUCATIONAL AND SUPERVISED EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT OF § 17-302.4 OF THIS TITLE.

(F) THE LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL MEMBER OF THE BOARD SHALL:

(1) HAVE A MASTER'S OR DOCTORAL DEGREE IN COUNSELING OR RELATED FIELD APPROVED BY THE BOARD; AND

(2) MEET THE EDUCATIONAL AND SUPERVISED EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT OF § 17-302.4 OF THIS TITLE.

[(e)] (G) Before taking office, each appointee to the Board shall take the oath required by Article I, § 9 of the State Constitution.

[(f)] (H) (1) The term of a member is 4 years.

(2) The terms of the members of the Board are staggered as required by the terms of the members of the Board serving on July 1, 1988.

(3) At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(4) A member may not serve more than 2 consecutive full terms.

(5) To the extent practicable, the Governor shall fill any vacancy on the Board within 60 days of the date of the vacancy.

[(g)] (I) (1) The Governor may remove a member for incompetency, misconduct, or neglect of duty.

(2) Upon the recommendation of the Secretary, the Governor may remove a member whom the Secretary finds to have been absent from 2 successive Board meetings without adequate reason.

17-205.

(a) In addition to the powers set forth elsewhere in this title, the Board may adopt rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this title.

(b) In addition to the duties set forth elsewhere in this title, the Board shall:

(1) Maintain a registry of all currently:

(i) Certified professional counselors;

(ii) Certified professional counselors-marriage and family therapists;

(iii) Certified professional counselors-alcohol and drug;

(IV) LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS-CLINICAL;

(V) LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL;

[(iv)] (VI) Certified associate counselors-alcohol and drug; and

[(v)] (VII) Certified supervised counselors-alcohol and drug.

(2) Submit an annual report to the Governor and the Secretary;

(3) Adopt a code of ethics that the Board considers to be appropriate and applicable to certified professional counselors, certified professional counselors-marriage and family therapists, certified professional counselors-alcohol and drug, LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS-CLINICAL, LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS-CLINICAL, certified associate counselors-alcohol and drug, and certified supervised counselors-alcohol and drug;

(4) Establish continuing education requirements for certified professional counselors, certified professional counselors-marriage and family therapists, certified professional counselors-alcohol and drug, LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS-CLINICAL, LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS-CLINICAL, certified associate counselors-alcohol and drug, and certified supervised counselors-alcohol and drug;

(Over)

(5) Adopt an official seal; and

(6) Create committees as it deems appropriate to advise the Board on special issues.

(c) (1) The Board may not take action regarding certified professional counselors-marriage and family therapists without the approval of the Board member who is a certified professional counselor-marriage and family therapist.

(2) The Board may not take action regarding alcohol and drug counselors without the approval of the Board member who is a certified professional counselor-alcohol and drug.

(3) THE BOARD MAY NOT TAKE ACTION REGARDING LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS-CLINICAL WITHOUT THE APPROVAL OF THE BOARD MEMBER WHO IS A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL.

(4) THE BOARD MAY NOT TAKE ACTION REGARDING LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS-CLINICAL WITHOUT THE APPROVAL OF THE BOARD MEMBER WHO IS A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL.

(d) The Board shall establish or select an examination that the Board considers appropriate to determine the ability of an applicant to be a certified professional counselor, a certified professional counselor-marriage and family therapist, certified professional counselor-alcohol and drug, certified associate counselor-alcohol and drug, LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS-CLINICAL, LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS-CLINICAL, or certified supervised counselor-alcohol and drug.

17-301.

(a) An individual shall be certified as a professional counselor or licensed professional counselor-marriage and family therapist by the Board before the individual may:

(1) Use the title “certified professional counselor”;

(2) Use the initials “C.P.C.” after the name of the individual; or

(3) Represent to the public that the individual is certified as a professional counselor.

(b) An individual shall be certified as a professional counselor-marriage and family therapist by the Board before the individual may:

(1) Use the title “certified professional counselor-marriage and family therapist”;

(2) Use the initials “C.P.C.-M.F.T.” after the name of the individual; or

(3) Represent to the public that the individual is certified as a certified professional counselor-marriage and family therapist.

(c) (1) An individual shall be certified as a certified professional counselor-alcohol and drug by the Board before the individual may:

(i) Use the title “certified professional counselor-alcohol and drug”;

(ii) Use the initials “C.P.C.-A.D.” after the name of the individual; or

(iii) Represent to the public that the individual is certified as a certified professional counselor-alcohol and drug.

(2) An individual shall be certified as a certified associate counselor-alcohol and drug by the Board before the individual may:

(i) Use the title “certified associate counselor-alcohol and drug”;

(ii) Use the initials “C.A.C.-A.D.” after the name of the individual; or

(iii) Represent to the public that the individual is certified as a certified associate counselor-alcohol and drug.

(Over)

(3) An individual shall be certified as a certified supervised counselor-alcohol and drug by the Board before the individual may:

(i) Use the title “certified supervised counselor-alcohol and drug”;

(ii) Use the initials “C.S.C.-A.D.” after the name of the individual; or

(iii) Represent to the public that the individual is certified as a certified supervised counselor-alcohol and drug.

(D) AN INDIVIDUAL SHALL BE LICENSED AS A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL BY THE BOARD BEFORE THE INDIVIDUAL MAY:

(1) USE THE TITLE “LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL”;

(2) USE THE INITIALS “L.P.C.-C.” AFTER THE NAME OF THE INDIVIDUAL;

(3) REPRESENT TO THE PUBLIC THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS LICENSED AS A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL; OR

(4) REPRESENT TO THE PUBLIC THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS LICENSED AS A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL.

(E) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS TITLE, AN INDIVIDUAL SHALL BE LICENSED BY THE BOARD BEFORE THE INDIVIDUAL MAY PRACTICE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-CLINICAL, OR PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL IN THIS STATE.

(F) THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE APPLIED TO:

(1) AN INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYED BY THE FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY, BALTIMORE CITY, OR OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WHILE PERFORMING THE DUTIES OF THAT EMPLOYMENT, UNLESS THE INDIVIDUAL APPLIES FOR A

CERTIFICATE OR A LICENSE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE;

(2) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO DOES NOT USE ANY TITLE, ABBREVIATION, SIGN, CARD, OR OTHER REPRESENTATION THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS A PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR OR IS ENGAGED IN THE BUSINESS OF PROVIDING PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING;

(3) A STUDENT WHILE PURSUING A SUPERVISED COURSE OF STUDY IN PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING THAT THE BOARD APPROVES AS QUALIFYING TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE UNDER THIS TITLE; AND

(4) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS AN ATTORNEY OR MEMBER OF THE CLERGY:

(I) WHILE THE INDIVIDUAL IS WORKING WITHIN THE STANDARDS AND ETHICS OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S PROFESSION; AND

(II) IF THE INDIVIDUAL DOES NOT REPRESENT TO THE PUBLIC BY TITLE OR DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES THAT THE INDIVIDUAL PRACTICES PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING.

17-302.

(a) To qualify for certification, A PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL LICENSE, OR A PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL LICENSE, an applicant shall be an ADULT individual OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER who meets the requirements of this section.

[(b) The applicant shall be of good moral character.

(c) The applicant shall be at least 18 years old.

(d)] (B) AN APPLICANT FOR CERTIFICATION, A PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL LICENSE, OR A PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND

(Over)

FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL LICENSE SHALL:

(1) [The applicant shall have] HOLD a master’s or doctoral degree in a professional counseling field from an accredited educational institution that is approved by the Board[.];

(2) In the case of an applicant holding only a master’s degree, [the applicant shall] have completed, either as a part of the applicant’s master’s degree program or after the award of the master's degree:

(i) A minimum of 60 graduate credit hours in counselor training approved by the Board; and

(ii) Not less than 3 years, with a minimum of 3,000 hours, of supervised experience in counseling approved by the Board, 2 years of which shall have been completed after the award of the master's degree[.] ; AND

(3) In the case of an applicant holding a doctoral degree, [the applicant shall] have completed, either as a part of the applicant’s doctoral program or after the award of the doctoral degree:

(i) A minimum of 90 graduate credit hours in counselor training approved by the Board; and

(ii) Not less than 2 years of supervised experience in counseling approved by the Board, 1 year of which shall have been completed after the award of the doctorate.

(4) In this subsection, “counselor training” includes [but is not limited to] instruction in:

(i) Counseling theory and ethics;

(ii) Counseling techniques;

(iii) Human growth and development and maladaptive behaviors;

(iv) Group dynamics, processing, and counseling;

(v) Social and cultural foundations;

(vi) Lifestyle and career development;

(vii) Appraisal of individuals;

(viii) Research and evaluation;

(ix) Participation in a supervised practicum in professional counseling;

(x) Marriage and family therapy; and

(xi) Alcohol and drug counseling.

(5) In this subsection, “training in marriage and family therapy” includes [, but is not limited to,] instruction in the following specialized areas:

(i) Analysis of family systems;

(ii) Family therapy, theory, and techniques;

(iii) Couples therapy, theory, and techniques;

(iv) Gender and ethnicity in marriage and family therapy; and

(v) Sexual issues in marriage and family therapy.

[(e)] (C) Except as otherwise provided in this title, the applicant shall pass an examination approved by the Board under this subtitle.

17-302.2.

(Over)

(a) Subject to subsections (b) and (c) of this section, the Board may adopt regulations to allow individuals to:

(1) Provide counseling under the supervision of a certified professional counselor OR A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL; [or]

(2) Provide marriage and family therapy under the supervision of a certified professional counselor-marriage and family therapist[.]; OR

(3) PROVIDE CLINICAL COUNSELING UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL.

(b) An individual may be authorized to provide counseling under supervision as provided in subsection (a)(1) of this section if the individual [has]:

(1) HAS a master's or doctoral degree in a professional counseling field from an accredited educational institution that is approved by the Board; AND

(2) IS WORKING UNDER SUPERVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF QUALIFYING FOR THE REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION OR LICENSURE UNDER THIS TITLE.

(c) An individual may be authorized to provide marriage and family therapy under supervision as provided in subsection (a)(2) of this section if the individual has a master's or doctoral degree in a marriage and family field or has completed a program of studies judged by the Board to be substantially equivalent in subject matter and extent of training as required under § 17-302(d) of this subtitle.

(D) THE EVIDENTIARY PRIVILEGE EXTENDED TO CLIENTS OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS UNDER § 9-109.1 OF THE COURTS ARTICLE SHALL EXTEND TO THE COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN A CLIENT AND A PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR SUPERVISEE.

17-302.4.

(A) TO QUALIFY AS A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL OR LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL, AN APPLICANT SHALL:

(1) MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF § 17-302, § 17-302.1, § 17-302.2, OR § 17-302.3 OF THIS SUBTITLE, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION;

(2) HAVE DOCUMENTATION EVIDENCING THE COMPLETION OF 60 HOURS OF GRADUATE CLINICAL COURSE WORK, INCLUDING TRAINING IN PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT, DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL DISORDERS, PSYCHOPATHOLOGY, AND PSYCHOTHERAPY FROM AN ACCREDITED COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE BOARD;

(3) HAVE COMPLETED AT LEAST 3,000 HOURS OF DIRECT CLIENT CONTACT IN A SUPERVISED CLINICAL SETTING AFTER RECEIVING A MASTER'S DEGREE; AND

(4) HAVE DOCUMENTATION EVIDENCING THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF EITHER THE NATIONAL CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING EXAMINATION OR ANOTHER RECOGNIZED EQUIVALENT CLINICAL COUNSELING EXAMINATION APPROVED BY THE BOARD.

(B) (1) IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, AN APPLICANT FOR A PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-CLINICAL LICENSE SHALL HAVE A MINIMUM OF 144 HOURS OF PERIODIC DIRECT SUPERVISION PROVIDED IN AT LEAST 2 CONSECUTIVE YEARS WHERE CLINICAL SUPERVISION IS PART OF AN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT AND THE SUPERVISOR IS A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL.

(2) IF A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL IS NOT AVAILABLE AT THE EMPLOYMENT SITE, THEN A LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER-CLINICAL, A LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST, OR A LICENSED PSYCHIATRIST WHO IS APPROVED BY THE BOARD MAY PROVIDE THE SUPERVISION.

(3) AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2002, THE CLINICAL SUPERVISOR SHALL BE A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL.

(C) (1) IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, AN APPLICANT FOR A PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL LICENSE SHALL HAVE A MINIMUM OF 144 HOURS OF PERIODIC DIRECT SUPERVISION PROVIDED IN AT LEAST 2 CONSECUTIVE YEARS WHERE CLINICAL SUPERVISION IS PART OF AN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT AND THE SUPERVISOR IS A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL.

(2) IF A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL IS NOT AVAILABLE AT THE EMPLOYMENT SITE, THEN A LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER-CLINICAL, A LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST, OR A LICENSED PSYCHIATRIST WHO IS APPROVED BY THE BOARD MAY PROVIDE THE SUPERVISION.

(3) AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2002, THE CLINICAL SUPERVISOR SHALL BE A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL.

17-303.

An applicant for a certificate OR LICENSE shall:

(1) Submit an application to the Board on the form that the Board requires;

(2) Pay to the Board the application fee set by the Board; and

(3) Furnish to the Board the professional disclosure statement required under § 17-312 of this subtitle.

17-304.

(a) An applicant who otherwise qualifies for a certificate OR LICENSE is entitled to be examined as provided in this section.

(b) The Board shall give examinations to applicants at least twice a year, at the times and places that the Board determines.

(c) The Board shall notify each qualified applicant of the time and place of examination.

(d) The examination shall include a portion that tests an applicant's knowledge of the Maryland Professional Counselors Act.

17-306.1.

THE BOARD SHALL WAIVE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE OF A PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL OR PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL FOR ANY PERSON WHO HAS FILED A LETTER OF INTENT BY JULY 1, 1998 AND:

(1) HAS BEEN CERTIFIED BY THE BOARD AS A PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR OR AS A PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, OR IS A PERSON WITH A MASTER'S DEGREE WHO IS DESIGNATED BY THE BOARD AS ELIGIBLE FOR A CERTIFICATE AS A CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-ALCOHOL AND DRUG;

(2) PROVIDES DOCUMENTATION TO THE BOARD EVIDENCING THE COMPLETION OF 3 YEARS OF FULL-TIME EXPERIENCE OR THE EQUIVALENT OF 6,000 HOURS OF PART-TIME EXPERIENCE PROVIDING PSYCHOTHERAPY SERVICES FOR COMPENSATION, AS A CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR, CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY, OR CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-ALCOHOL AND DRUG BY OCTOBER 1, 2000; OR

(3) PROVIDES DOCUMENTATION TO THE BOARD EVIDENCING THE COMPLETION OF EITHER THE NATIONAL CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR

(Over)

EXAMINATION OR ANOTHER COMPARABLE CLINICAL EXAMINATION APPROVED BY THE BOARD BY OCTOBER 1, 2000.

17-307.

(a) The Board shall issue a certificate OR LICENSE to any applicant who meets the requirements of this title.

(b) The Board shall include on each certificate OR LICENSE that the Board issues:

(1) The kind of certificate OR LICENSE;

(2) The full name of the certificate OR LICENSE holder;

(3) A serial number; and

(4) The seal of the Board.

(c) The Board may issue a certificate OR LICENSE to replace a lost, destroyed, or mutilated certificate OR LICENSE if the certificate OR LICENSE holder pays the certificate OR LICENSE replacement fee set by the Board.

17-308.

(A) An individual who is certified by the Board may:

(1) Use the title “certified professional counselor”, “certified professional counselor-marriage and family therapist”, “certified professional counselor-alcohol and drug”, “certified associate counselor-alcohol and drug”, or “certified supervised counselor-alcohol and drug”;

(2) Use the initials “C.P.C.”, “C.P.C.-M.F.T.”, “C.P.C.-A.D.”, “C.A.C.-A.D.”, or “C.S.C.-A.D.” after the name of the individual; and

(3) Represent to the public that the individual is certified as a professional counselor, certified professional counselor-marriage and family therapist, certified professional counselor-

alcohol and drug, certified associate counselor-alcohol and drug, or certified supervised counselor-alcohol and drug.

(B) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS LICENSED BY THE BOARD AS A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL MAY:

(1) USE THE TITLE “LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL”;

(2) USE THE INITIALS “L.P.C.-C.” AFTER THE NAME OF THE INDIVIDUAL;

AND

(3) REPRESENT TO THE PUBLIC THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS LICENSED AS A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL.

(C) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS LICENSED BY THE BOARD AS A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL MAY:

(1) USE THE TITLE “LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL”;

(2) USE THE INITIALS “L.P.C.-M.F.T.-C.” AFTER THE NAME OF THE INDIVIDUAL; AND

(3) REPRESENT TO THE PUBLIC THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS LICENSED AS A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL.

17-309.

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

(Over)

(b) At least 1 month before a certificate OR LICENSE expires, the Board shall send to the certificate OR LICENSE holder, by [first class] FIRST-CLASS mail to the last known address of the certificate OR LICENSE holder, a renewal notice that states:

(1) The date on which the current certificate OR LICENSE expires;

(2) The date by which the renewal application must be received by the Board for the renewal to be issued and mailed before the certificate OR LICENSE expires; and

(3) The amount of the renewal fee.

(c) Before the certificate OR LICENSE expires, the certificate OR LICENSE holder periodically may renew the certificate OR LICENSE for an additional 2-year term, if the certificate OR LICENSE holder:

(1) Otherwise is entitled to be certified OR LICENSED;

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

(3) Submits to the Board:

(i) A renewal application on the form that it requires; and

(ii) Satisfactory evidence of compliance with any continuing education requirements set under this section for certificate OR LICENSE renewal.

(d) The Board may not authorize home study towards the completion of the continuing education requirements.

(e) The Board shall renew the certificate OR LICENSE of each certificate OR LICENSE holder who meets the requirements of this section.

17-310.

(a) (1) The Board shall place a certificate OR LICENSE on inactive status, if the certificate

OR LICENSE holder submits to the Board:

(i) An application for inactive status on the form required by the Board; and

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

(2) The Board shall issue a certificate OR LICENSE to an individual who is on inactive status if the individual complies with the renewal requirements that existed when the individual was placed on inactive status.

(b) In accordance with its rules and regulations, the Board may reinstate the certificate of a professional counselor who:

(1) Has not been put on inactive status; and

(2) Has failed to renew the certificate for any reason.

(C) IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS RULES AND REGULATIONS, THE BOARD MAY REINSTATE THE LICENSE OF A PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL OR PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL WHO:

(1) HAS NOT BEEN PUT ON INACTIVE STATUS; AND

(2) HAS FAILED TO RENEW THE LICENSE FOR ANY REASON.

17-311.

(a) Each certificate OR LICENSE holder shall display the certificate OR LICENSE conspicuously in the certificate OR LICENSE holder's office or place of employment.

(b) Each certificate OR LICENSE holder shall notify the Board of any change in address.

17-312.

(Over)

(a) Any individual who is certified OR LICENSED under this subtitle may not charge a client or receive remuneration for professional counseling services unless:

(1) Before the performance of those services, the client is furnished a copy of a professional disclosure statement; or

(2) (i) This professional disclosure statement is displayed in a conspicuous location at the place where the services are performed; and

(ii) A copy of the statement is provided to the client on request.

(b) The professional disclosure statement shall contain:

(1) The name, title, business address, and business telephone number of the professional counselor performing the services;

(2) The formal professional education of the professional counselor, including the institutions attended and the degrees received from them;

(3) The areas of specialization of the professional counselor and the services provided;

(4) In the case of a person certified OR LICENSED under this subtitle who is engaged in a private individual practice, partnership, or group practice, the person's fee schedule listed by type of service or hourly rate;

(5) (I) [At] FOR CERTIFICATE HOLDERS, AT the bottom of the first page of the disclosure statement, the words, "This information is required by the Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors which regulates all certified professional counselors and certified professional counselor-marriage and family therapists"; and

(II) FOR PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS-CLINICAL LICENSE HOLDERS, AT THE BOTTOM OF THE FIRST PAGE OF THE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT, THE WORDS, "THIS INFORMATION IS REQUIRED BY THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF

PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS WHICH REGULATES ALL LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS-CLINICAL”; AND

(III) FOR PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS-CLINICAL LICENSE HOLDERS, AT THE BOTTOM OF THE FIRST PAGE OF THE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT, THE WORDS, “THIS INFORMATION IS REQUIRED BY THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS WHICH REGULATES ALL LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS-CLINICAL”; AND

(6) Immediately beneath the statement required by item (5) of this subsection, the name, address, and telephone number of the Board.
17-313.

Subject to the hearing provisions of § 17-314 of this subtitle, the Board, on the affirmative vote of a majority of its members then serving, may deny a certificate OR LICENSE to any applicant, reprimand any certificate OR LICENSE holder, or suspend or revoke a certificate OR LICENSE of any certificate OR LICENSE holder if the applicant or certificate OR LICENSE holder:

(1) Fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a certificate OR LICENSE for the applicant or certificate OR LICENSE holder or for another;

(2) Is addicted to any narcotic or is habitually intoxicated;

(3) Aids or abets an unauthorized person in [practicing]:

(I) PRACTICING professional counseling or representing to be a certified professional counselor;

(II) PRACTICING PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-CLINICAL OR REPRESENTING TO BE A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL; OR

(III) PRACTICING PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-MARRIAGE AND

(Over)

FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL;

(4) Violates the code of ethics adopted by the Board;

(5) Knowingly violates any provision of this title;

(6) Is convicted of or pleads guilty or nolo contendere to a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude, whether or not any appeal or other proceeding is pending to have the conviction or plea set aside;

(7) Is professionally, physically, or mentally incompetent;

(8) Submits a false statement to collect a fee;

(9) Violates any rule or regulation adopted by the Board;

(10) Is disciplined by a licensing or disciplinary authority of any other state or country or convicted or disciplined by a court of any state or country for an act that would be grounds for disciplinary action under the Board's disciplinary statutes; or

(11) Refuses, withholds from, denies, or discriminates against an individual with regard to the provision of professional services for which the certificate OR LICENSE holder is certified OR LICENSED and qualified to render because the individual is HIV positive.

17-316.

For reasons the Board considers sufficient, and on the affirmative vote of a majority of its members then serving, the Board may:

(1) Reinstate a certificate OR LICENSE that has been revoked;

(2) Reduce the period of a suspension; or

(3) Withdraw a reprimand.

17-401.

(A) Except as otherwise provided in this title, unless a person is certified to practice professional counseling, the person may not:

(1) Represent to the public by title, by description of services, methods, or procedures, or otherwise, that the person is certified by the Board to provide professional counseling services in this State;

(2) Use any title, abbreviation, sign, card, or other representation that the person is a certified professional counselor, licensed professional counselor-marriage and family therapist, certified professional counselor-alcohol and drug, certified associate counselor-alcohol and drug, or certified supervised counselor-alcohol and drug; or

(3) Use the title “C.P.C.”, “C.P.C.-M.F.T.”, “C.P.C.-A.D.”, “C.A.C.-A.D.”, or “C.S.C.-A.D.”, OR the words “certified professional counselor” or “licensed professional counselor-marriage and family therapist”, or the words “certified counselor” or “licensed marriage and family therapist” with the intent to represent that the person practices professional counseling or marriage and family therapy, or the words “certified professional counselor-alcohol and drug”, “certified associate counselor-alcohol and drug”, “certified supervised counselor-alcohol and drug” with the intent to represent that the person practices alcohol and drug counseling.

(B) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS TITLE, UNLESS A PERSON IS LICENSED TO PRACTICE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-CLINICAL, THE PERSON MAY NOT:

(1) REPRESENT TO THE PUBLIC BY TITLE, BY DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES, METHODS, OR PROCEDURES, OR OTHERWISE, THAT THE PERSON IS LICENSED BY THE BOARD TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-CLINICAL SERVICES IN THIS STATE;

(2) USE ANY TITLE, ABBREVIATION, SIGN, CARD, OR OTHER

(Over)

REPRESENTATION THAT THE PERSON IS A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL; OR

(3) USE THE TITLE “L.P.C.-C.”, OR THE WORDS “LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL” WITH THE INTENT TO REPRESENT THAT THE PERSON PRACTICES PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-CLINICAL.

(C) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS TITLE, UNLESS A PERSON IS LICENSED TO PRACTICE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL, THE PERSON MAY NOT:

(1) REPRESENT TO THE PUBLIC BY TITLE, BY DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES, METHODS, OR PROCEDURES, OR OTHERWISE, THAT THE PERSON IS LICENSED BY THE BOARD TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL SERVICES IN THIS STATE;

(2) USE ANY TITLE, ABBREVIATION, SIGN, CARD, OR OTHER REPRESENTATION THAT THE PERSON IS A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL; OR

(3) USE THE TITLE “L.P.C.-M.F.T.-C.”, OR THE WORDS “LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL” WITH THE INTENT TO REPRESENT THAT THE PERSON PRACTICES PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL.

(D) A PERSON MAY NOT:

(1) (I) INTENTIONALLY GIVE FALSE INFORMATION TO THE BOARD WHEN ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE;

(II) INTENTIONALLY USE OR ATTEMPT TO USE THE CERTIFICATE OF ANOTHER PERSON WHO IS A CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR; OR

(III) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS TITLE, PRACTICE

OR ATTEMPT TO ENGAGE IN THE BUSINESS OF PROVIDING PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR SERVICES IN THIS STATE WITHOUT A CERTIFICATE; OR

(2) (I) INTENTIONALLY GIVE FALSE INFORMATION TO THE BOARD WHEN ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN A LICENSE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE;

(II) INTENTIONALLY USE OR ATTEMPT TO USE THE LICENSE OF ANOTHER PERSON WHO IS A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL OR LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL; OR

(III) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS TITLE, PRACTICE OR ATTEMPT TO ENGAGE IN THE BUSINESS OF PROVIDING PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-CLINICAL OR PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR-MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPIST-CLINICAL SERVICES IN THIS STATE WITHOUT A LICENSE.

Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

9-109.1.

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

(2) “Client” means an individual who communicates to or receives services from a psychiatric-mental health nursing specialist or a professional counselor regarding the diagnosis or treatment of the individual's mental or emotional disorder.

(3) “Professional counselor” means an individual who is certified OR LICENSED as a counselor under Title 17 of the Health Occupations Article.

(4) “Psychiatric-mental health nursing specialist” means a registered nurse who:

(i) Has a master’s degree in psychiatric-mental health nursing; or

(Over)

(ii) Has a baccalaureate degree in nursing and a master's degree in a mental health field; or

(iii) Is certified as a clinical specialist in psychiatric and mental health nursing by the American Nurses' Association or by a body approved by the Board of Nursing.

(b) Unless otherwise provided, in any judicial, legislative, or administrative proceeding, a client or a client's authorized representative has a privilege to refuse to disclose, and to prevent a witness from disclosing, communications relating to diagnosis or treatment of the client's mental or emotional disorder.

(c) (1) If a client is incompetent to assert or waive this privilege, a guardian shall be appointed and shall act for the client.

(2) A guardian appointed before the proceeding has the authority to act for the client.

(d) There is no privilege if:

(1) A disclosure is necessary for the purpose of placing the client in a facility for mental illness;

(2) A judge finds that the client, after being informed that there will be no privilege, makes communications in the course of an examination ordered by the court and the issue at trial involves the client's mental or emotional disorder;

(3) In a civil or criminal proceeding:

(i) The client introduces the client's mental condition as an element of the claim or defense; or

(ii) After the client's death, the client's mental condition is introduced by any party claiming or defending through or as a beneficiary of the client;

(4) The client, the authorized representative of the client, or the personal

representative of the client makes a claim against the psychiatric-mental health nursing specialist or the professional counselor for malpractice; or

(5) The client expressly consents to waive the privilege or, in the case of death or disability, the client's personal representative waives the privilege for the purpose of making a claim or bringing suit on a policy of insurance on life, health, or physical condition.

(e) There is no privilege in:

(1) Any administrative or judicial nondelinquent juvenile proceeding;

(2) Any guardianship and adoption proceeding initiated by a child placement agency;

(3) Any guardianship and protective services proceeding concerning a disabled person; or

(4) Any criminal or delinquency proceeding in which there is a charge of child abuse or neglect or that arises out of an investigation of suspected child abuse or neglect.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) On or before January 1, 1998, the State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors shall:

(1) Assess whether, as to those certified professional counselors who meet the requirements of § 17-306 of the Health Occupations Article, as enacted by Section 2 of this Act, it is advisable to specify distinctions in title by specialization; and

(2) Report to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1312 of the State Government Article, on the results of its assessment.

(b) On or before January 1, 1999, the State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors shall issue recommendations to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1312 of the State

(Over)

Government Article, that certified professional counselors-alcohol and drug who meet the requirements of § 17-302.3 of the Health Occupations Article, should be licensed in a manner comparable with the provisions of this Act relating to licensed professional counselors-clinical and licensed professional counselors-marriage and family therapist-clinical.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1997.”.