
By: Senator Collins

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 1997

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 14, 1997

CHAPTER ____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Workers' Compensation Commission - Rehabilitation Practitioners - Registration

3 FOR the purpose of establishing certain educational and experience requirements for
4 individuals who provide vocational rehabilitation services under certain
5 circumstances; establishing a certain registration system; authorizing the State
6 Workers' Compensation Commission to waive certain requirements for registration
7 under certain circumstances; specifying the purpose of this Act; establishing an
8 Advisory Committee on the Registration of Rehabilitation Practitioners within the
9 Commission; specifying the selection of members and responsibilities of the
10 Advisory Committee; establishing certain hearing and appeal procedures; defining
11 certain terms; and generally relating to establishing educational and experience
12 requirements for certain individuals to satisfy in order to provide certain
13 rehabilitation services under certain circumstances.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article - Labor and Employment
16 Section 9-671
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (1991 Volume and 1996 Supplement)

19 BY adding to
20 Article - Labor and Employment
21 Section 9-6A-01 through 9-6A-20, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle
22 6A. Rehabilitation Practitioners"
23 Annotated Code of Maryland
24 (1991 Volume and 1996 Supplement)

2

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

3 **Article - Labor and Employment**

4 9-671.

5 (a) If required by the Commission, [a person] AN INDIVIDUAL who provides
6 vocational rehabilitation services under this title in the State shall register with the
7 Commission AS PROVIDED IN SUBTITLE 6A OF THIS TITLE.

8 (b) [A person] AN INDIVIDUAL who is required under subsection (a) of this
9 section shall register on the form required by the Commission.

10 (c) [A person] AN INDIVIDUAL who fails to register with the Commission under
11 subsection (a) of this section may not receive payment for providing vocational
12 rehabilitation services.

13 **SUBTITLE 6A. REHABILITATION PRACTITIONERS.**

14 9-6A-01.

15 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
16 INDICATED.

17 (B) "ADVISORY COMMITTEE" MEANS THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE
18 REGISTRATION OF REHABILITATION PRACTITIONERS.

19 (C) "STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, DIVISION OF REHABILITATION
20 SERVICES" MEANS THE STATE AGENCY DESIGNATED TO ADMINISTER THE PUBLIC
21 VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES PROGRAM.

22 (D) "REGISTRATION" MEANS THE AUTHORIZATION OF A REHABILITATION
23 PRACTITIONER TO PROVIDE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES.

24 (E) (1) "REHABILITATION PRACTITIONER" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO
25 PROVIDES VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES.

26 (2) "REHABILITATION PRACTITIONER" INCLUDES:

27 (I) A NURSE CERTIFIED BY THE STATE BOARD OF NURSING AS A
28 NURSE CASE MANAGER;

29 (II) A REHABILITATION COUNSELOR; AND

30 (III) A VOCATIONAL EVALUATOR.

31 (F) "VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES" HAS THE MEANING STATED
32 IN § 9-670 OF THIS TITLE.

33 9-6A-02.

34 THE PURPOSE OF THIS SUBTITLE IS TO ESTABLISH EDUCATIONAL AND
35 EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO PROVIDE VOCATIONAL
36 REHABILITATION SERVICES IN THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION FIELD AND TO

3

1 ESTABLISH A REGISTRATION SYSTEM TO BETTER REGULATE THE ACTIVITIES OF
2 THOSE INDIVIDUALS PROVIDING VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES.

3 9-6A-03.

4 (A) THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, DIVISION OF REHABILITATION
5 SERVICES, SHALL BE REGISTERED WITH THE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE
6 VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

7 (B) REHABILITATION SPECIALISTS EMPLOYED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT
8 OF EDUCATION, DIVISION OF REHABILITATION SERVICES, ARE NOT REQUIRED TO
9 REGISTER INDIVIDUALLY TO PROVIDE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES
10 TO CLIENTS OF THE DIVISION.

11 (C) (1) EMPLOYERS OF REHABILITATION PRACTITIONERS ARE NOT
12 REQUIRED TO REGISTER INDIVIDUALLY FOR THEIR BUSINESS TO PROVIDE
13 VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES.

14 (2) EXEMPTION OF REGISTRATION APPLIES ONLY TO THOSE
15 EMPLOYERS WHO ARE NOT REGISTERED REHABILITATION PRACTITIONERS.

16 (3) EXEMPT EMPLOYERS MAY NOT INDIVIDUALLY PROVIDE
17 VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES.

18 9-6A-04.

19 (A) THIS SUBTITLE DOES NOT LIMIT THE RIGHT OF ANY INDIVIDUAL TO
20 ENGAGE IN A HEALTH OCCUPATION THAT THE INDIVIDUAL OTHERWISE IS
21 AUTHORIZED TO ENGAGE IN UNDER THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE.

22 (B) THE COMMISSION HAS THE AUTHORITY TO ADOPT AND ENFORCE RULES
23 AND REGULATIONS REGARDING THE STANDARDS OF PRACTICE OF
24 REHABILITATION COUNSELORS AND VOCATIONAL EVALUATORS.

25 ~~(C) THE COMMISSION HAS THE AUTHORITY TO ENFORCE RULES AND~~
26 ~~REGULATIONS REGARDING THE STANDARDS OF PRACTICE OF NURSE CASE~~
27 ~~MANAGERS AS ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD OF NURSING.~~

28 ~~(D)~~ VIOLATION OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS ADOPTED OR ENFORCED
29 BY THE COMMISSION OR THE STATE BOARD OF NURSING IN ACCORDANCE WITH
30 THIS TITLE BY A REHABILITATION PRACTITIONER SHALL BE GROUNDS FOR DENIAL
31 OF A REGISTRATION TO ANY APPLICANT, OR SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF A
32 REGISTRANT'S REGISTRATION PURSUANT TO §§ 9-6A-15 AND 9-6A-16 OF THIS
33 SUBTITLE.

34 9-6A-05.

35 (A) THERE IS AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE REGISTRATION OF
36 REHABILITATION PRACTITIONERS WITHIN THE COMMISSION.

37 (B) THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF SEVEN MEMBERS APPOINTED
38 BY THE COMMISSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION.

4

1 (C) THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL BE COMPRISED OF REGISTERED
2 REHABILITATION PRACTITIONERS, WHO HAVE BEEN REGISTERED WITH THE
3 COMMISSION UNDER THIS SUBTITLE FOR A MINIMUM OF 3 YEARS.

4 (D) THE TERM OF AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER IS 3 YEARS.

5 (E) IN MAKING APPOINTMENTS TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, THE
6 COMMISSION SHALL PROVIDE FOR CONTINUITY AND ROTATION THROUGH A
7 STAGGERING OF TERMS.

8 (F) A MAJORITY OF THE FULLY AUTHORIZED ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS A
9 QUORUM.

10 (G) THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL MEET AT THE REQUEST OF THE
11 COMMISSION.

12 (H) IN ADDITION TO THE DUTIES SET FORTH ELSEWHERE IN THIS TITLE, THE
13 ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL:

14 (1) REVIEW APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION SUBMITTED TO THE
15 COMMISSION WHENEVER FURTHER CLARIFICATION REGARDING THE APPLICANT IS
16 REQUESTED BY THE COMMISSION; AND

17 (2) AFTER REVIEW AND EVALUATION, PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS
18 TO THE COMMISSION CHAIRMAN ON THE APPLICANT.

19 9-6A-06.

20 (A) A REHABILITATION PRACTITIONER SHALL BE REGISTERED WITH THE
21 COMMISSION BEFORE THE PRACTITIONER MAY RECEIVE PAYMENT UNDER THIS
22 TITLE FOR PROVIDING VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES.

23 (B) ANY EMPLOYER NOT REGISTERED BY THE COMMISSION, BUT
24 CONTRACTING ON BEHALF OF REGISTERED REHABILITATION PRACTITIONERS MAY
25 RECEIVE PAYMENT FOR PROVIDING VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES.

26 9-6A-07.

27 (A) IN ADDITION TO ANY POWERS SET FORTH ELSEWHERE, THE COMMISSION
28 MAY ADOPT ANY REGULATION TO CARRY OUT THIS SUBTITLE.

29 (B) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE COMMISSION
30 SHALL ESTABLISH REASONABLE FEES FOR REGISTRATION, REGISTRATION
31 RENEWAL, AND ANY OTHER SERVICE PERFORMED BY THE COMMISSION
32 NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.

33 (2) THE FEES ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSION SHALL BE SET IN A
34 MANNER THAT WILL PRODUCE FUNDS SUFFICIENT TO COVER THE ACTUAL DIRECT
35 AND INDIRECT COSTS OF REGULATING THE REHABILITATION PRACTITIONER
36 INDUSTRY IN THIS STATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS
37 SUBTITLE.

38 (3) THE COMMISSION SHALL PAY ALL MONEY COLLECTED UNDER THIS
39 SUBTITLE INTO THE GENERAL FUND OF THE STATE.

5

1 9-6A-08.

2 (A) TO QUALIFY FOR REGISTRATION, AN APPLICANT SHALL BE AN
3 INDIVIDUAL WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.

4 (B) THE APPLICANT SHALL:

5 (1) BE AT LEAST 18 YEARS OLD; AND

6 (2) SATISFY THE EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, AND SUPERVISION
7 REQUIREMENTS OF § 9-6A-09 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

8 9-6A-09.

9 (A) TO QUALIFY FOR REGISTRATION, A NURSE CASE MANAGER SHALL BE
10 CERTIFIED AS SUCH BY THE STATE BOARD OF NURSING.

11 (B) TO QUALIFY FOR REGISTRATION, A REHABILITATION COUNSELOR
12 SHALL:

13 (1) HAVE A BACHELOR'S DEGREE FROM AN ACCREDITED INSTITUTION
14 IN REHABILITATION COUNSELING, HUMAN SERVICES, PSYCHOLOGY, OR A RELATED
15 FIELD WITH AT LEAST 1 YEAR OF WORK EXPERIENCE IN A HUMAN SERVICES
16 OCCUPATION;

17 (2) HAVE A MASTER'S OR DOCTORAL DEGREE IN REHABILITATION
18 COUNSELING, HUMAN SERVICES, PSYCHOLOGY, EDUCATION, OR A RELATED FIELD;
19 OR

20 (3) BE A CERTIFIED REHABILITATION COUNSELOR, CERTIFIED
21 VOCATIONAL EVALUATOR, CERTIFIED DISABILITY MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST,
22 HOLD AN EQUIVALENT NATIONAL CERTIFICATION THAT IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE
23 COMMISSION, OR HAVE MET ALL OF THE EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE
24 REQUIREMENTS TO BE ELIGIBLE TO BE CERTIFIED.

25 (C) TO QUALIFY FOR REGISTRATION, A VOCATIONAL EVALUATOR SHALL:

26 (1) HAVE A BACHELOR'S DEGREE FROM AN ACCREDITED INSTITUTION
27 IN VOCATIONAL EVALUATION, REHABILITATION PSYCHOLOGY, HUMAN SERVICES,
28 EDUCATION, OR A RELATED FIELD WITH 1 YEAR OF WORK EXPERIENCE IN THAT
29 FIELD;

30 (2) HAVE A MASTER'S OR DOCTORAL DEGREE IN REHABILITATION,
31 VOCATIONAL EVALUATION, PSYCHOLOGY, HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION, OR A
32 RELATED FIELD; OR

33 (3) BE CERTIFIED OR HAVE MET ALL OF THE EDUCATIONAL AND
34 EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS TO BE ELIGIBLE TO BE CERTIFIED IN VOCATIONAL
35 EVALUATION BY THE COMMISSION ON CERTIFICATION OF WORK ADJUSTMENT AND
36 VOCATIONAL EVALUATION SPECIALISTS, OR HAVE MET ALL OF THE EDUCATION
37 AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CERTIFICATION.

38 (D) IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (C) OF
39 THIS SECTION:

6

1 (1) A REHABILITATION COUNSELOR WHO HAS MET THE EDUCATION
2 REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(1) OR (2) OF THIS SECTION TO QUALIFY
3 FOR REGISTRATION SHALL WORK UNDER THE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISION OF A
4 CERTIFIED REHABILITATION COUNSELOR, CERTIFIED VOCATIONAL EVALUATOR,
5 CERTIFIED DISABILITY MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST, CERTIFIED CASE MANAGER, OR
6 CERTIFIED REHABILITATION REGISTERED NURSE; AND

7 (2) A VOCATIONAL EVALUATOR WHO HAS MET THE EDUCATION
8 REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (C)(1) OR (2) OF THIS SECTION SHALL WORK
9 UNDER THE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISION OF A CERTIFIED VOCATIONAL
10 EVALUATOR, CERTIFIED REHABILITATION COUNSELOR, CERTIFIED DISABILITY
11 MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST, CERTIFIED CASE MANAGER, OR CERTIFIED
12 REHABILITATION REGISTERED NURSE.

13 9-6A-10.

14 AN APPLICANT FOR REGISTRATION SHALL SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE
15 COMMISSION ON THE FORM REQUIRED BY THE COMMISSION AND PAY THE
16 REGISTRATION FEE AS ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSION.

17 9-6A-11.

18 (A) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION, THE COMMISSION MAY
19 WAIVE ANY REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBTITLE FOR A REHABILITATION
20 PRACTITIONER WHO APPLIES FOR REGISTRATION TO PROVIDE VOCATIONAL
21 REHABILITATION SERVICES.

22 (B) THE COMMISSION MAY GRANT A WAIVER UNDER THIS SECTION ONLY IF
23 THE APPLICANT PROVIDES VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES TO LESS THAN
24 THREE COVERED EMPLOYEES IN A GIVEN YEAR.

25 (C) ANY OTHER WAIVER THAT IS GRANTED SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH
26 REGULATIONS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION.

27 9-6A-12.

28 THE COMMISSION SHALL REGISTER ANY APPLICANT WHO MEETS THE
29 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBTITLE.

30 9-6A-13.

31 A REGISTRATION, WHILE IN EFFECT, AUTHORIZES AN INDIVIDUAL, AS A
32 REHABILITATION PRACTITIONER, TO PROVIDE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
33 SERVICES.

34 9-6A-14.

35 (A) A REGISTRATION EXPIRES ON THE DATE SET BY THE COMMISSION,
36 UNLESS THE REGISTRATION IS RENEWED FOR AN ADDITIONAL TERM AS PROVIDED
37 IN THIS SECTION. A REGISTRATION MAY NOT BE RENEWED FOR A TERM LONGER
38 THAN 3 YEARS.

7

1 (B) AT LEAST 1 MONTH BEFORE A REGISTRATION EXPIRES, THE COMMISSION
2 SHALL SEND TO THE REGISTRANT, BY FIRST-CLASS MAIL TO THE LAST KNOWN
3 ADDRESS OF THE REGISTRANT:

4 (1) A RENEWAL APPLICATION FORM; AND

5 (2) A RENEWAL NOTICE THAT STATES:

6 (I) THE DATE ON WHICH THE CURRENT REGISTRATION EXPIRES;

7 (II) THE DATE BY WHICH THE COMMISSION MUST RECEIVE THE
8 RENEWAL APPLICATION IN ORDER THAT THE RENEWED REGISTRATION MAY BE
9 ISSUED AND MAILED BEFORE THE CURRENT REGISTRATION EXPIRES; AND

10 (III) THE AMOUNT OF THE REGISTRATION AND RENEWAL FEE.

11 (C) BEFORE A REGISTRATION EXPIRES, THE REGISTRANT MAY RENEW THE
12 REGISTRATION FOR AN ADDITIONAL 3-YEAR TERM, IF THE REGISTRANT:

13 (1) IS ENTITLED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE TO BE REGISTERED;

14 (2) PAYS TO THE COMMISSION THE RENEWAL FEE SET BY THE
15 COMMISSION; AND

16 (3) PROVIDES SATISFACTORY EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH
17 CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS AND OTHER QUALIFICATIONS AND
18 REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE FOR REGISTRATION RENEWAL.

19 (D) THE COMMISSION SHALL RENEW THE REGISTRATION OF ANY
20 REGISTRANT WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.

21 (E) EACH REGISTRANT SHALL GIVE THE COMMISSION WRITTEN NOTICE OF
22 ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

23 9-6A-15.

24 (A) ~~SUBJECT TO THE HEARING PROVISIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE~~
25 ~~PROCEDURE ACT~~, THE COMMISSION MAY DENY REGISTRATION TO ANY APPLICANT,
26 REPRIMAND ANY REGISTRANT, OR SUSPEND OR REVOKE ANY REGISTRATION IF
27 THE APPLICANT OR REGISTRANT:

28 (1) FRAUDULENTLY OR DECEPTIVELY OBTAINS OR ATTEMPTS TO
29 OBTAIN A REGISTRATION FOR THE APPLICANT OR FOR ANOTHER;

30 (2) FRAUDULENTLY OR DECEPTIVELY USES A REGISTRATION; OR

31 (3) DOES NOT COMPLY WITH THE RULES AND REGULATIONS
32 GOVERNING THE STANDARDS OF PRACTICE WITH REGARD TO THE DELIVERY OF
33 VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES.

34 (B) THE COMMISSION MAY REVIEW THE STATUS OF ANY REHABILITATION
35 PRACTITIONER REGISTERED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE AT ANY TIME.

8

1 9-6A-16.

2 (A) ~~EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE~~
3 ~~ACT,~~ BEFORE THE COMMISSION TAKES ANY FINAL ACTION UNDER ~~§ 9-6A-17~~ § 9-6A-15
4 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE COMMISSION SHALL GIVE THE INDIVIDUAL AGAINST WHOM
5 THE ACTION IS CONTEMPLATED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING BEFORE THE
6 COMMISSION.

7 (B) THE INDIVIDUAL MAY BE REPRESENTED AT THE HEARING BY COUNSEL.

8 (C) THE COMMISSION:

9 (1) SHALL GIVE NOTICE AND HOLD A HEARING IN ACCORDANCE WITH
10 ~~THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT;~~ HEARING REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE
11 COMMISSION;

12 (2) MAY ADMINISTER OATHS IN CONNECTION WITH ANY PROCEEDING
13 UNDER THIS SECTION; AND

14 (3) MAY ISSUE SUBPOENAS IN CONNECTION WITH ANY PROCEEDING
15 UNDER THIS SECTION.

16 (D) IF AN INDIVIDUAL FAILS TO COMPLY WITH A SUBPOENA ISSUED UNDER
17 THIS SECTION, ON PETITION OF THE COMMISSION, A COURT OF COMPETENT
18 JURISDICTION MAY COMPEL COMPLIANCE WITH THE SUBPOENA.

19 (E) IF, AFTER DUE NOTICE, THE INDIVIDUAL AGAINST WHOM THE ACTION IS
20 CONTEMPLATED FAILS OR REFUSES TO APPEAR, THE COMMISSION MAY HEAR AND
21 DETERMINE THE MATTER.

22 9-6A-17.

23 ANY INDIVIDUAL AGGRIEVED BY A ~~FINAL~~ DECISION OF THE COMMISSION ~~IN A~~
24 ~~CONTESTED CASE, AS DEFINED IN TITLE 10, SUBTITLE 2 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT~~
25 ~~ARTICLE, UNDER THIS SUBTITLE~~ MAY APPEAL THE DECISION AS ALLOWED ~~BY THE~~
26 ~~ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT~~ UNDER SUBTITLE 7 OF THIS TITLE.

27 9-6A-18.

28 EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SUBTITLE, AN INDIVIDUAL MAY
29 NOT ENGAGE, ATTEMPT TO ENGAGE, OR OFFER TO ENGAGE IN THE PRACTICE OF
30 PROVIDING VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES IN THE STATE UNLESS THE
31 INDIVIDUAL IS REGISTERED WITH THE COMMISSION.

32 9-6A-19.

33 UNLESS AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE TO ENGAGE IN THE PRACTICE OF
34 PROVIDING VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES, AN INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT:

35 (1) BE REIMBURSED UNDER THIS TITLE FOR THE PROVISION OF
36 VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES; OR

37 (2) REPRESENT TO THE PUBLIC BY USE OF A TITLE, INCLUDING
38 "REGISTERED REHABILITATION CONSULTANT", BY DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES,
39 METHODS, PROCEDURES, OR OTHERWISE, THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS AUTHORIZED

9

1 TO ENGAGE IN THE PRACTICE OF PROVIDING VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
2 SERVICES IN THE STATE.

3 9-6A-20.

4 THIS SUBTITLE MAY BE CITED AS THE "MARYLAND REHABILITATION
5 PRACTITIONER REGISTRATION ACT".

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Commission shall
7 grant a waiver of registration to any individual who is registered with the Commission on
8 October 1, 1997.

9 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
10 October 1, 1997.