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By: **Senators Stoltzfus and Colburn**  
Introduced and read first time: January 30, 1998  
Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Psychologists - Educational Requirements**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of "doctoral degree in psychology" to  
4 include certain criteria published by the Council for the National Register of  
5 Health Service Providers in Psychology; authorizing the State Board of  
6 Examiners of Psychologists to consider postdoctoral course work in determining  
7 whether the doctoral degree in psychology meets certain criteria; and generally  
8 relating to the criteria for defining a doctoral degree in psychology.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article - Health Occupations  
11 Section 18-101(g)  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - Health Occupations**

17 18-101.

18 (g) (1) "Doctoral degree in psychology" means [a]:

19 (I) A degree received from a program that at the time the degree  
20 was awarded:

21 [(1)] 1. Is accredited by the American Psychological Association; or

22 [(2)] 2. Is listed in the designated doctoral programs in psychology  
23 published by:

24 [(i)] A. The Association of State and Provincial Psychology  
25 Boards; and

1 [(ii)] B. The Council for the National Register of Health Service  
2 Providers in Psychology; OR

3 (II) A DEGREE THAT MEETS THE CRITERIA FOR A DOCTORAL  
4 DEGREE IN PSYCHOLOGY PUBLISHED IN 1977 BY THE COUNCIL.

5 (2) (I) A DETERMINATION BY THE COUNCIL UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(II)  
6 OF THIS SUBSECTION THAT A DOCTORAL DEGREE MEETS ITS CRITERIA IN  
7 PSYCHOLOGY SHALL BE CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD AS PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE  
8 THAT THE DEGREE MEETS THOSE CRITERIA.

9 (II) IN DETERMINING WHETHER THE DEGREE MEETS THE  
10 CRITERIA DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (1)(II) OF THIS SUBSECTION AND  
11 SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE BOARD MAY CONSIDER THE  
12 COMPLETION OF POSTDOCTORAL COURSE WORK, NOT TO EXCEED 9 SEMESTER  
13 HOURS.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
15 October 1, 1998.