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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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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 24, 1998

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

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; making this  
8 Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to the criteria for defining a  
9 doctoral degree in psychology.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article - Health Occupations  
12 Section 18-101(g)  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

17 **Article - Health Occupations**

18 18-101.

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

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

- 1            [(1)]    1.        Is accredited by the American Psychological Association; or
- 2            [(2)]    2.        Is listed in the designated doctoral programs in psychology
- 3 published by:
- 4                            [(i)]    A.        The Association of State and Provincial Psychology
- 5 Boards; and
- 6                            [(ii)]   B.        The Council for the National Register of Health Service
- 7 Providers in Psychology; OR
- 8                            (II)     A DEGREE THAT MEETS THE CRITERIA FOR A DOCTORAL
- 9 DEGREE IN PSYCHOLOGY PUBLISHED IN 1977 BY THE COUNCIL.

10            (2)     (I)       A DETERMINATION BY THE COUNCIL UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(II)

11 OF THIS SUBSECTION THAT A DOCTORAL DEGREE MEETS ITS CRITERIA IN

12 PSYCHOLOGY SHALL BE CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD AS PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE

13 THAT THE DEGREE MEETS THOSE CRITERIA.

14                            (II)     IN DETERMINING WHETHER THE DEGREE MEETS THE

15 CRITERIA DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (1)(II) OF THIS SUBSECTION AND

16 SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE BOARD MAY CONSIDER THE

17 COMPLETION OF POSTDOCTORAL COURSE WORK, NOT TO EXCEED 9 SEMESTER

18 HOURS.

19        SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an

20 emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health

21 and safety, has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the

22 members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take

23 effect from the date it is enacted.

24        ~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect~~

25 ~~October 1, 1998.~~