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2000 Regular Session 0lr1036

By: Senator Hollinger (Chairman, Health Subcommittee) and Senators Conway, Harris, Pinsky, and Sfikas

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2000 Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2	Medical Records - Confidentiality
3	FOR the purpose of prohibiting the disclosure by sale, rental, or barter of certain
4	medical records; exempting certain medical records from the prohibition;
5	requiring certain payors to accept claims only from certain medical care
6	electronic claims clearinghouses; creating additional limitations on the
7	disclosure of certain records; exempting certain notes from the definition of
8	medical records; authorizing mental health providers to maintain certain notes
9	in specified situations; providing that a personal note is a medical record if
10	disclosed in a certain manner; requiring mental health providers to withhold
11	certain portions of the medical record and abide by certain requirements;
12	authorizing certain persons to release or obtain certain records under certain
13	circumstances; providing for punitive damages when a person knowingly and
14	willfully violates the provisions of this Act; establishing an Advisory Council on
15	Medical Privacy and Confidentiality to examine confidentiality issues; providing
16	for the membership and terms of the Advisory Council; establishing the duties of
17	the Advisory Council; requiring the Advisory Council to annually submit a
18	report to the Governor and General Assembly; defining certain terms; and
19	generally relating to the confidentiality of medical records.
20	BY renumbering
21	Article - Health - General
22	Section 4-302(e) and 4-307(d) through (h), respectively
23	
24	

26 BY adding to

25

- 27 Article Health General
- 28 Section 4-302(e) and (f), 4-302.1, 4-307(d) through (f), and 4-309(g); and
- 4-3A-01 through 4-3A-05, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle
- 30 "Subtitle 3A. State Advisory Council on Medical Privacy and

(1994 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

31 Confidentiality"

- 1 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 2 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)
- 3 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 4 Article Health General
- 5 Section 4-306(b)(7) and 4-307(a)
- 6 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 7 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)
- 8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
- 9 Article Health General
- 10 Section 4-307(b) and (c) and 4-309(e) and (f)
- 11 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 12 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)
- 13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 14 Article Courts and Judicial Proceedings
- 15 Section 9-109(b), 9-109.1(b), and 9-121(b)
- 16 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 17 (1998 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)
- 18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
- 19 MARYLAND, That Section(s) 4-302(e) and 4-307(d) through (h), respectively, of the
- 20 Health General Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be
- 21 Section(s) 4-302(g) and 4-307(g) through (k), respectively.
- 22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland
- 23 read as follows:
- 24 Article Health General
- 25 4-302.
- 26 (E) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A
- 27 PERSON MAY NOT DISCLOSE BY SALE, RENTAL, OR BARTER ANY MEDICAL RECORD.
- 28 (2) THIS SUBSECTION SHALL NOT PROHIBIT THE TRANSFERS OF
- 29 MEDICAL RECORDS RELATING TO THE TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF A HEALTH CARE
- 30 PRACTICE IF THE TRANSFER IS IN ACCORD WITH THE ETHICAL GUIDELINES OF THE
- 31 APPLICABLE HEALTH CARE PROFESSION OR PROFESSIONS.
- 32 (F) (1) IF A MEDICAL RECORD IS TRANSFERRED UNDER SUBSECTION (E)(2)
- 33 OF THIS SECTION, THE PROVIDER WHO MAINTAINS THE RECORDS SHALL NOTIFY
- 34 THE PATIENT OR PERSON IN INTEREST.
- 35 (2) THE NOTICE UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL:

	(I) BE MADE BY FIRST-CLASS MAIL TO THE LAST KNOWN ADDRESS OF THE PATIENT OR PERSON IN INTEREST WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF THE HEALTH CARE PRACTICE; AND
4 5	(II) INCLUDE A DESIGNATED LOCATION FROM WHICH THE MEDICAL RECORD MAY BE RETRIEVED, IF WANTED.
6	4-302.1.
	(A) PAYORS THAT ACCEPT CLAIMS ORIGINATING IN THIS STATE FROM MEDICAL CARE ELECTRONIC CLAIMS CLEARINGHOUSES SHALL ACCEPT CLAIMS ONLY FROM MEDICAL CARE ELECTRONIC CLAIMS CLEARINGHOUSES THAT ARE:
10 11	(1) ACCREDITED BY THE ELECTRONIC HEALTHCARE NETWORK ACCREDITATION COMMISSION; OR
12	(2) CERTIFIED BY THE STATE HEALTH CARE COMMISSION.
13 14	(B) THE STATE HEALTH CARE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SUBSECTION.
15	4-306.
16 17	(b) A health care provider shall disclose a medical record without the authorization of a person in interest:
20 21 22 23 24	(7) [To] SUBJECT TO THE ADDITIONAL LIMITATIONS FOR A MEDICAL RECORD DEVELOPED PRIMARILY IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN § 4-307 OF THIS SUBTITLE, TO grand juries, prosecution agencies, law enforcement agencies or their agents or employees to further an investigation or prosecution, pursuant to a subpoena, warrant, or court order for the sole purposes of investigating and prosecuting criminal activity, provided that the prosecution agencies and law enforcement agencies have written procedures to protect the confidentiality of the records;
26	4-307.
27	(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.
30	(2) "Case management" means an individualized recipient centered service designed to assist a recipient in obtaining effective mental health services through the assessing, planning, coordinating, and monitoring of services on behalf of the recipient.
	(3) "Core service agency" means an organization approved by the Mental Hygiene Administration to manage mental health resources and services in a designated area or to a designated target population.
35 36	(4) "Director" means the Director of the Mental Hygiene Administration or the designee of the Director.

- **SENATE BILL 371** 1 (5)"Mental health director" means the health care professional who 2 performs the functions of a clinical director or the designee of that person in a health 3 care, detention, or correctional facility. 4 (6) (I) "PERSONAL NOTE" MEANS INFORMATION THAT IS: THE WORK PRODUCT AND PERSONAL PROPERTY OF A 6 MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDER; AND 7 EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (D)(3) OF THIS 8 SECTION, NOT DISCOVERABLE OR ADMISSIBLE AS EVIDENCE IN ANY CRIMINAL, 9 CIVIL, OR ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION. 10 (II)EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (D)(2) OF THIS SECTION, 11 A MEDICAL RECORD DOES NOT INCLUDE A PERSONAL NOTE OF A MENTAL HEALTH 12 CARE PROVIDER, IF THE MENTAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDER: 13 1. KEEPS THE PERSONAL NOTE IN THE MENTAL HEALTH 14 CARE PROVIDER'S SOLE POSSESSION FOR THE PROVIDER'S OWN PERSONAL USE; 15 MAINTAINS THE PERSONAL NOTE SEPARATE FROM THE 16 RECIPIENT'S MEDICAL RECORDS; AND 17 3. DOES NOT DISCLOSE THE PERSONAL NOTE TO ANY OTHER 18 PERSON EXCEPT: 19 A. THE MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDER'S SUPERVISING HEALTH 20 CARE PROVIDER THAT MAINTAINS THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE PERSONAL NOTE; 21 B. A CONSULTING HEALTH CARE PROVIDER THAT 22 MAINTAINS THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE PERSONAL NOTE; OR 23 C. AN ATTORNEY OF THE HEALTH CARE PROVIDER THAT 24 MAINTAINS THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE PERSONAL NOTE. 25 The disclosure of a medical record developed in connection with the 26 provision of mental health services shall be governed by the provisions of this section 27 in addition to the other provisions of this subtitle. When a medical record developed in connection with the provision of 28 29 mental health services is disclosed without the authorization of a person in interest,

- 30 only the information in the record relevant to the purpose for which disclosure is
- 31 sought may be released.
- TO THE EXTENT A MENTAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDER DETERMINES IT 32 (D) (1)
- 33 NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE, THE MENTAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDER MAY
- 34 MAINTAIN A PERSONAL NOTE REGARDING A RECIPIENT.

	` '	S IF, AT		OTE SHALL BE CONSIDERED PART OF A RECIPIENT'S ME, A MENTAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDER DISCLOSES
4 5	HEALTH CARE PRO	` /		ON OTHER THAN THE PROVIDER'S SUPERVISING
6		(II)	A CONS	SULTING HEALTH CARE PROVIDER;
7		(III)	AN ATT	CORNEY OF THE HEALTH CARE PROVIDER; OR
8		(IV)	A RECI	PIENT UNDER PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION.
11	RECIPIENT WHO H	COVERY IAS INIT	, OR AD TATED A	NS OF THIS SUBSECTION DO NOT PROHIBIT THE PAIRSIBILITY OF A PERSONAL NOTE REGARDING A AN ACTION FOR MALPRACTICE, AN INTENTIONAL SENCE AGAINST THE HEALTH CARE PROVIDER.
15 16 17	THIS SUBSECTION RELATING TO A PS FAIRNESS OF THE	, IF THE SYCHOL TEST O OT DISC	DISCLO OGICAL R THE TELOSE T	HERWISE PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPHS (3), (4), AND (5) OF OSURE OF A PORTION OF A MEDICAL RECORD L TEST WOULD COMPROMISE THE OBJECTIVITY OR ESTING PROCESS, A MENTAL HEALTH CARE HAT PORTION OF THE MEDICAL RECORD TO ANY OF THE TEST.
21 22 23 24	DISCOVERABLE O ADMINISTRATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE SEEKING THE RAV EDUCATION, OR E	R ADMI ACTION HEARIN V TEST I XPERIE	SSIBLE : N ON TH NG OFFI DATA IS NCE TO	DATA RELATING TO A PSYCHOLOGICAL TEST IS ONLY AS EVIDENCE IN A CRIMINAL, CIVIL, OR E DETERMINATION BY THE COURT OR CER THAT THE EXPERT WITNESS FOR THE PARTY QUALIFIED BY THE APPROPRIATE TRAINING, INTERPRET THE RESULTS OF THAT PORTION OF TO THE PSYCHOLOGICAL TEST.
28 29	PSYCHOLOGICAL OF THE HEALTH O	TEST M CCUPAT EALTH	AY DESI ΓΙΟΝS A OCCUPA	PIENT WHO HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF A IGNATE A PSYCHOLOGIST LICENSED UNDER TITLE 18 RTICLE OR A PSYCHIATRIST LICENSED UNDER ATIONS ARTICLE TO WHOM A HEALTH CARE IEDICAL RECORD.
31		(II)	THE RE	CIPIENT SHALL:
32 33	PARAGRAPH IN W	RITING;		REQUEST THE DISCLOSURE AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS
34 35	SUBTITLE.		2.	COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF § 4-304 OF THIS
	` '			RE PROVIDER MAY DISCLOSE A MEDICAL RECORD L TEST AS PROVIDED UNDER § 4-305(B)(2)(I) OF THIS

- 6 SENATE BILL 371 1 (5) THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT RESTRICT ACCESS 2 TO OR AFFECT THE DISCLOSURE OF A MEDICAL RECORD WHICH IS ALSO AN 3 EDUCATION RECORD UNDER THE FEDERAL INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES 4 EDUCATION ACT, THE FEDERAL FAMILY EDUCATION RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT, OR 5 ANY FEDERAL AND STATE REGULATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ADOPTED TO 6 IMPLEMENT THOSE LAWS. 7 NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS SUBTITLE, A PERSON (F) 8 IN INTEREST SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO OBTAIN A MEDICAL RECORD OF A 9 RECIPIENT THAT IS DEVELOPED IN CONJUNCTION WITH A MENTAL HEALTH 10 EVALUATION RELATING TO OBTAINING OR CONTINUING EMPLOYMENT, IF THE 11 EVALUATION HAS BEEN PERFORMED AT THE REQUEST OF OR ON BEHALF OF AN 12 EMPLOYER OR PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYER: 13 (1)IN CONNECTION WITH A CIVIL ACTION OR U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT 14 OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION COMPLAINT INITIATED BY THE PERSON IN INTEREST; 15 OR ON A WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION OF THE EMPLOYER OR 16 (2) 17 PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYER. 18 4-309. A health care provider or any other person, including an officer or 19 20 employee of a governmental unit, who knowingly and willfully requests or obtains a 21 medical record under false pretenses or through deception or knowingly and willfully 22 discloses a medical record in violation of this subtitle is guilty of a misdemeanor and 23 on conviction is subject to the following penalties: 24 (i) A fine not exceeding \$50,000, imprisonment for not more than 1 25 year, or both; 26 If the offense is committed under false pretenses, a fine not (ii) 27 exceeding \$100,000, imprisonment for not more than 5 years, or both; and 28 If the offense is committed with intent to sell, transfer, or use (iii) 29 individually identifiable health information for commercial advantage, personal gain, 30 or malicious harm, a fine not exceeding \$250,000, imprisonment for not more than 10 31 years, or both. 32 This subsection does not apply to an officer or employee of a 33 governmental unit that is conducting a criminal investigation.
- A health care provider or any other person who knowingly violates any 34 35 provision of this subtitle is liable for actual damages.
- A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER OR ANY OTHER PERSON, INCLUDING AN 36 37 OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE OF A LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNDER § 5-303 OF THE COURTS
- 38 ARTICLE OR STATE PERSONNEL UNDER § 5-522 OF THE COURTS ARTICLE, MAY BE
- 39 LIABLE FOR PUNITIVE DAMAGES IF THE PERSON:

1 KNOWINGLY AND WILLFULLY REQUESTS OR OBTAINS A MEDICAL (1) 2 RECORD UNDER FALSE PRETENSES OR THROUGH DECEPTION WITH INTENT TO SELL, 3 TRANSFER, OR USE INDIVIDUALLY IDENTIFIABLE HEALTH INFORMATION FOR 4 COMMERCIAL ADVANTAGE, PERSONAL GAIN, OR MALICIOUS HARM; OR KNOWINGLY AND WILLFULLY DISCLOSES A MEDICAL RECORD IN 5 6 VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE WITH INTENT TO SELL, TRANSFER, OR USE 7 INDIVIDUALLY IDENTIFIABLE HEALTH INFORMATION FOR COMMERCIAL 8 ADVANTAGE, PERSONAL GAIN, OR MALICIOUS HARM. 9 SUBTITLE 3A. STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON MEDICAL PRIVACY AND 10 CONFIDENTIALITY. 11 4-3A-01. THERE IS A STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON MEDICAL PRIVACY AND 13 CONFIDENTIALITY. 14 4-3A-02. IN THIS SUBTITLE, "ADVISORY COUNCIL" MEANS THE STATE ADVISORY 15 (A) 16 COUNCIL ON MEDICAL PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY. 17 THE ADVISORY COUNCIL CONSISTS OF 25 MEMBERS. (B) (1) THE ADVISORY COUNCIL SHALL CONSIST OF 25 VOTING MEMBERS 18 (2) 19 APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR. 20 OF THE 25 VOTING MEMBERS: (3) 21 (I) ONE SHALL BE THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND MENTAL 22 HYGIENE OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE: 23 TWO SHALL BE LICENSED PHYSICIANS; (II)(III)ONE SHALL BE A LICENSED DENTIST: 24 (IV) ONE SHALL BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE HEALTH **26 INSURANCE INDUSTRY:** 27 (V) ONE SHALL BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE HOSPITAL 28 INDUSTRY; 29 (VI) ONE SHALL BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF A MEDICAL 30 INSTITUTION THAT IS ENGAGED IN MEDICAL RESEARCH; THREE SHALL BE CONSUMER MEMBERS, INCLUDING ONE 31 (VII) 32 FROM THE MARYLAND PATIENT ADVOCACY GROUP; (VIII) ONE SHALL BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN INTEREST GROUP 33 34 THAT IS INTERESTED IN MEDICAL CONFIDENTIALITY;

32 QUALIFIES.

1 2	HEALTH ASSOCIA	(IX) TION;	ONE SHALL BE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE MENTAL
3		(X)	ONE SHALL BE A LICENSED NURSE;
4 5	REGULATORY CO	(XI) MMISSIO	ONE SHALL BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATE HEALTH CARE ON THAT IS INVOLVED IN THE COLLECTION OF DATA;
6		(XII)	ONE SHALL BE A MEDICAL ETHICIST;
7 8	EXPERT;	(XIII)	ONE SHALL BE A COMPUTER SECURITY AND ENCRYPTION
9 10	ASSOCIATION;	(XIV)	ONE SHALL BE A MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND PLAINTIFF'S BAR
11 12	ASSOCIATION;	(XV)	ONE SHALL BE A MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND DEFENSE BAR
15			ONE SHALL BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF YGIENE WITH SPECIFIC KNOWLEDGE OF STATE AND ON CONFIDENTIALITY RELATIVE TO MENTAL HEALTH
17		(XVII)	ONE SHALL BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF ORGANIZED LABOR;
18		(XVIII)	ONE SHALL BE A MEDICAL RECORDS PROFESSIONAL;
19 20	OF CHAIN DRUGS	(XIX) TORES;	ONE SHALL BE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE ASSOCIATION
21		(XX)	ONE SHALL BE A LICENSED CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER;
22		(XXI)	ONE SHALL BE A MEMBER OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND; AND
23 24	DELEGATES.	(XXII)	ONE SHALL BE A MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF
25	(C) (1)	THE TE	ERM OF A VOTING MEMBER IS 4 YEARS.
26 27	(2) TERMS PROVIDED		ERMS OF MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS REQUIRED BY THE EMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL.
28 29	(3) SUCCESSOR IS AP		E END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE UNTIL A D AND QUALIFIES.
30 31	(4) ONLY FOR THE RI		IBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER A TERM HAS BEGUN SERVES THE TERM AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND

- 1 (D) THE GOVERNOR MAY REMOVE A MEMBER FOR INCOMPETENCE OR 2 MISCONDUCT.
- 3 4-3A-03.
- 4 FROM AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL, THE GOVERNOR
- 5 SHALL APPOINT A CHAIRMAN FOR A 2-YEAR TERM.
- 6 4-3A-04.
- 7 (A) A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS SERVING ON THE ADVISORY COUNCIL IS A 8 QUORUM.
- 9 (B) THE ADVISORY COUNCIL SHALL DETERMINE THE TIMES AND PLACES OF 10 ITS MEETINGS.
- 11 (C) A MEMBER OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL:
- 12 (1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION; BUT
- 13 (2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE
- 14 STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.
- 15 (D) THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE SHALL DESIGNATE 16 THE STAFF NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THIS SUBTITLE.
- 17 4-3A-05.
- 18 (A) THE ADVISORY COUNCIL SHALL:
- 19 (1) ADVISE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF EMERGING ISSUES IN THE 20 CONFIDENTIALITY OF MEDICAL RECORDS;
- 21 (2) CONDUCT HEARINGS;
- 22 (3) MONITOR DEVELOPMENTS IN FEDERAL LAW AND REGULATIONS
- 23 REGARDING:
- 24 (I) CONFIDENTIALITY OF MEDICAL RECORDS;
- 25 (II) HEALTH CARE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY;
- 26 (III) TELEMEDICINE; AND
- 27 (IV) PROVIDER AND PATIENT COMMUNICATION:
- 28 (4) STUDY MEDICAL DATABASES AND THE ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION
- 29 OF DATA IN RELATION TO ITS IMPACT ON PATIENT CONFIDENTIALITY;
- 30 (5) STUDY EMERGING PROVIDER BEST PRACTICES FOR SUPPORTING
- 31 PATIENT CONFIDENTIALITY;

31

32 July 1, 2000.

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1 MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (6)2 REGARDING THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF MEDICAL RECORDS; AND 3 ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 15 OF EACH YEAR, SHALL SUBMIT AN 4 ANNUAL REPORT AND ITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR, AND SUBJECT TO 5 § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. 6 **Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings** 7 9-109. 8 Unless otherwise provided, in all judicial, legislative, or administrative (b) 9 proceedings, a patient or [his] THE PATIENT'S authorized representative has a 10 privilege to refuse to disclose, and to prevent a witness from [disclosing, 11 communications] DISCLOSING: 12 (1) COMMUNICATIONS relating to diagnosis or treatment of the 13 [patient's mental or emotional disorder] PATIENT; OR 14 ANY INFORMATION THAT BY ITS NATURE WOULD SHOW THE 15 EXISTENCE OF A MEDICAL RECORD OF THE DIAGNOSIS OR TREATMENT. 16 9-109.1. 17 (b) Unless otherwise provided, in any judicial, legislative, or administrative 18 proceeding, a client or a client's authorized representative has a privilege to refuse to 19 disclose, and to prevent a witness from disclosing, communications relating [to 20 diagnosis] TO: DIAGNOSIS or treatment of the [client's mental or emotional 21 (1)22 disorder] CLIENT; OR 23 ANY INFORMATION THAT BY ITS NATURE WOULD SHOW A MEDICAL (2) 24 RECORD OF THE DIAGNOSIS OR TREATMENT EXISTS. 25 9-121. Unless otherwise provided, in all judicial or administrative proceedings, a 26 (b) 27 client has a privilege to refuse to disclose, and to prevent a witness from disclosing, 28 communications made while the client was receiving counseling OR ANY 29 INFORMATION THAT BY ITS NATURE WOULD SHOW THAT SUCH COUNSELING 30 OCCURRED.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect