
By: **Senator Hollinger**
 Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2006
 Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
 Senate action: Adopted
 Read second time: March 22, 2006

CHAPTER_____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Board of Social Work Examiners - Various Licensing and Regulatory**
 3 **Requirements**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the quorum requirements for the State Board of Social
 5 Work Examiners; altering the educational qualifications for certain licenses to
 6 practice social work to allow for the accreditation of certain programs by a
 7 certain accreditation organization or an equivalent organization approved by a
 8 certain accreditation organization; altering the requirements for which the
 9 Board may grant a certain waiver of certain examination requirements for
 10 licensure by certain applicants who are licensed or registered to practice social
 11 work in another state; making a certain technical correction; and generally
 12 relating to the State Board of Social Work Examiners and various licensing and
 13 regulatory requirements.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 15 Article - Health Occupations
 16 Section 19-204, 19-301, 19-302, and 19-305
 17 Annotated Code of Maryland
 18 (2005 Replacement Volume)

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

1

Article - Health Occupations

2 19-204.

3 (a) A majority of the [full authorized membership] APPOINTED MEMBERS of
4 the Board is a quorum to do business.

5 (b) The Board shall meet at least once a year, at the times and places that it
6 determines.

7 (c) Each member of the Board is entitled to reimbursement for expenses at a
8 rate determined by the Board.

9 (d) The Board may employ a staff in accordance with the budget of the Board.

10 (e) (1) The Board shall appoint an executive director.

11 (2) The executive director:

12 (i) Serves at the pleasure of the Board;

13 (ii) Is the executive officer of the Board; and

14 (iii) Has the powers and duties assigned by the Board.

15 19-301.

16 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this title, an individual shall be:

17 (1) Licensed by the Board before the individual may practice social work
18 in this State while representing oneself as a social worker; OR

19 (2) Licensed as a certified social worker-clinical before the individual
20 may practice clinical social work in this State.

21 (b) This section does not apply to:

22 (1) An individual employed by any agency of the federal government
23 while performing the duties of that employment[, unless the individual chooses to
24 apply for a license under this subtitle];

25 (2) An individual licensed as a social worker in another state while
26 responding to an emergency in this State; or

27 (3) An individual who:

28 (i) Is licensed to practice social work in any other state [or
29 possesses social work qualifications in another jurisdiction comparable to § 19-302 of
30 this subtitle];

31 (ii) Has an application for a license pending before the Board; and

1 (iii) Meets requirements established by the Board in regulations.

2 (c) An individual may not practice social work without a license under
3 subsection (b)(3) of this section for more than 6 months.

4 19-302.

5 (a) To obtain a license, an applicant shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of
6 the Board that the applicant:

7 (1) Has submitted a complete written application in the form prescribed
8 by the Board;

9 (2) Is at least 18 years old;

10 (3) Is of good moral character;

11 (4) Except as otherwise provided in this title, has successfully passed an
12 examination or examinations prescribed by the Board pertinent to the license sought;
13 and

14 (5) Has paid all applicable fees specified by the Board relative to the
15 licensure process.

16 (b) To obtain a social work associate license, an applicant shall:

17 (1) Meet the requirements of subsection (a) of this section; and

18 (2) Have received a baccalaureate degree in social work from a program
19 accredited by the Council on Social Work Education OR AN EQUIVALENT
20 ORGANIZATION APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION.

21 (c) (1) To obtain a graduate social worker license, an applicant shall:

22 (i) Meet the requirements of subsection (a) of this section; and

23 (ii) Have received a master's degree from a program accredited by
24 the Council on Social Work Education OR AN EQUIVALENT ORGANIZATION
25 APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION.

26 (2) (i) To obtain a provisional graduate social worker license, an
27 applicant shall:

28 1. Meet the requirements of subsection (a) of this section;
29 and

30 2. Have received a master's degree from a program which
31 had received formal candidacy status from the Council on Social Work Education OR
32 AN EQUIVALENT ORGANIZATION APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK
33 EDUCATION at the time the degree was awarded.

1 (ii) A provisional graduate social work license shall be issued for
2 the lesser of a period:

3 1. Not to exceed 3 years; or

4 2. Until the program has attained accredited status from the
5 Council on Social Work Education OR AN EQUIVALENT ORGANIZATION APPROVED BY
6 THE COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION.

7 (iii) Provisional licensees whose degree programs become accredited
8 during the license period shall be permitted to apply for a license as a graduate social
9 worker upon accreditation being granted to the program.

10 (d) To obtain a certified social worker license, an applicant shall:

11 (1) Meet the requirements of subsection (a) of this section;

12 (2) Have received a master's degree from a program accredited by the
13 Council on Social Work Education OR AN EQUIVALENT ORGANIZATION APPROVED BY
14 THE COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION; and

15 (3) Provide in a form prescribed by the Board, documentation of having
16 completed 2 years as a licensee with supervised experience of at least 3,000 hours
17 after receiving the master's degree with a minimum of 144 hours of periodic
18 face-to-face supervision in the practice of social work under the terms and conditions
19 that the Board determines by regulation.

20 (e) To obtain a certified social worker-clinical license, an applicant shall:

21 (1) Meet the requirements of subsection (a) of this section;

22 (2) Have received a master's degree in social work and documentation of
23 clinical course work from a program accredited by the Council on Social Work
24 Education OR AN EQUIVALENT ORGANIZATION APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL ON
25 SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION; and

26 (3) Provide in a form prescribed by the Board, documentation of having
27 completed 2 years as a licensee with supervised experience of at least 3,000 hours
28 after receiving the master's degree with a minimum of 144 hours of periodic
29 face-to-face supervision in the assessment, formulation of a diagnostic impression,
30 and treatment of mental disorders and other conditions and the provision of
31 psychotherapy under the terms and conditions that the Board determines by
32 regulation.

33 (f) If the supervision required for a certified social worker license under
34 subsection (d)(3) of this section was not available to the applicant while the applicant
35 was obtaining the required 2 years of experience, the Board may waive the
36 supervision requirement on the request of the applicant.

1 (g) If an applicant who is licensed or registered to practice social work in
2 another state has obtained 2 years of supervised experience under circumstances that
3 are otherwise equivalent to those required under subsection (d) of this section, the
4 Board may waive the supervision requirement.

5 19-305.

6 (a) Subject to the provisions of this section, the Board shall waive the
7 examination requirements of this title for an applicant who is licensed or registered to
8 practice social work in any other state.

9 (b) The Board may grant a waiver under this section only if the applicant:

10 (1) IS OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER;

11 (2) Pays the application fee required by the Board under § 19-303 of this
12 subtitle;

13 [(2)] (3) Provides adequate evidence that the applicant:

14 (i) Meets the qualifications [otherwise] COMPARABLE TO THOSE
15 required by this title; [and]

16 (ii) IS CURRENTLY LICENSED OR REGISTERED IN ANOTHER STATE;

17 (III) BECAME LICENSED OR REGISTERED IN ANOTHER STATE
18 UNDER REQUIREMENTS SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF
19 THIS TITLE; AND

20 (IV) Became licensed or registered in the other state after passing in
21 that or any other state an examination that is ~~similar to~~ THE SAME AS the
22 examination for which the applicant is seeking the waiver; and

23 [(3)] (4) Did not previously receive a waiver of the examination
24 requirement from the Board.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
26 October 1, 2006.