

## CHAPTER 508

(House Bill 494)

AN ACT concerning

### **Licensed Counselors and Therapists – Appraisal Activities – Training Requirements**

FOR the purpose of ~~altering the definition of “appraisal” relating to the use of certain instruments by certain licensed counselors and therapists~~ repealing a certain requirement that the Board of Examiners of Psychologists and the State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists jointly approve certain training for licensed counselors and therapists; authorizing certain licensed counselors and therapists to engage in certain appraisal activities that include the use of certain instruments if certain training has been completed; and generally relating to appraisal activities and licensed counselors and therapists.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
Article – Health Occupations  
Section 17–101(a)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2005 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Health Occupations  
Section 17–101(c)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2005 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

BY adding to  
Article – Health Occupations  
Section 17–3A–03.1  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2005 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

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

#### **Article – Health Occupations**

17–101.

(a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

(c) (1) "Appraisal" means:

(i) Selecting, administering, scoring, and interpreting instruments designed to assess an individual's aptitudes, attitudes, abilities, achievements, interests, and personal characteristics; and

(ii) Using nonstandardized methods and techniques for understanding human behavior in relation to coping with, adapting to, or changing life situations.

(2) "Appraisal" does not include instruments which require specialized psychological training for administration and interpretation unless the licensed [or certified professional] counselor **OR THERAPIST** has completed **THE** training [deemed by the Board of Examiners of Psychologists and the State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists to be equivalent to that of a licensed psychologist who is qualified to administer the same types of instruments] **REQUIRED UNDER § 17-3A-03.1 OF THIS TITLE.**

#### **17-3A-03.1.**

**A LICENSED COUNSELOR OR THERAPIST MAY ENGAGE IN APPRAISAL ACTIVITIES THAT INCLUDE INSTRUMENTS THAT REQUIRE SPECIALIZED PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAINING FOR ADMINISTRATION AND INTERPRETATION IF THE LICENSED COUNSELOR OR THERAPIST HAS COMPLETED TRAINING THAT INCLUDES:**

**(1) POSSESSION OF A DOCTORAL OR MASTER'S DEGREE IN ~~AN~~ AREA OF MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING OR A RELATED FIELD THAT INCLUDES A MINIMUM OF 9 NINE GRADUATE COURSES OF AT LEAST 3 SEMESTER HOURS IN EACH OF THE FOLLOWING COURSES:**

- (I) PSYCHOPATHOLOGY;**
- (II) BIOLOGICAL BASES OF BEHAVIOR;**
- (III) RESEARCH METHODS;**
- (IV) ADVANCED STATISTICS;**
- (V) TESTS AND MEASURES;**
- (VI) INTELLECTUAL ASSESSMENT;**
- (VII) PERSONALITY ASSESSMENT;**

~~(IX)~~ (VIII) ETHICS; AND

~~(X)~~ (IX) PRACTICUM IN ADVANCED ASSESSMENT; ~~OR~~

~~(2)~~ (I) ~~POSSESSION OF A DOCTORAL OR MASTER'S DEGREE IN A COUNSELING OR RELATED FIELD;~~

~~(II)~~ A MINIMUM OF NINE GRADUATE COURSES, AS VERIFIED TO THE BOARD ON THE FORM THAT THE BOARD REQUIRES, OF AT LEAST 3 SEMESTER HOURS IN EACH OF THE COURSES LISTED IN ITEM (1) OF THIS SECTION;

~~(III)~~ (2) COMPLETION OF 500 HOURS OF ~~FACE-TO-FACE SUPERVISED, DIRECT, CLIENT-RELATED, ADVANCED ASSESSMENT TESTING CONTACT~~ THAT IS COMPLETED NOT LESS THAN 2 YEARS FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF THE MASTER'S DEGREE, OF WHICH A MINIMUM OF 100 HOURS SHALL INCLUDE FACE-TO-FACE SUPERVISION ~~OF ADVANCED ASSESSMENT RELATED ACTIVITIES~~ BY A SUPERVISOR WHO IS:

~~1.~~ A SUPERVISOR;

~~2.~~ (I) A LICENSED MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL; ~~OR~~

~~3.~~ (II) ~~AN INDIVIDUAL PROFICIENT~~ PROFICIENT IN THE USE OF ADVANCED ASSESSMENT TESTS, ~~APPROVED;~~ AND

(III) APPROVED BY THE BOARD; AND

~~(IV)~~ (3) PASSAGE OF A NATIONAL EXAMINATION THAT INCLUDES ITEMS ON ADVANCED ASSESSMENT THAT EVALUATE KNOWLEDGE OF ADVANCED ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2008.

Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2008.