

Chapter 481

(House Bill 311)

AN ACT concerning

Professional Counselors and Therapists – Continuing Education – Home Study

FOR the purpose of repealing a provision prohibiting the State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists from authorizing home study courses towards completion of continuing education requirements.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Health Occupations

Section 17-504

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2009 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

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

Article – Health Occupations

17-504.

(a) (1) A license or certificate expires on the date set by the Board, unless the license or certificate is renewed for an additional term as provided in this section.

(2) A license or certificate may not be renewed for a term longer than 2 years.

(b) At least 1 month before the license or certificate expires, the Board shall send to the licensee or certificate holder, by first-class mail to the last known address of the licensee or certificate holder, a renewal notice that states:

(1) The date on which the current license or certificate expires;

(2) The date by which the renewal application must be received by the Board for the renewal to be issued and mailed before the license or certificate expires; and

(3) The amount of the renewal fee.

(c) Each licensee or certificate holder shall notify the Board of any change in the address of the licensee or certificate holder.

(d) Before the license or certificate expires, the licensee or certificate holder periodically may renew it for an additional 2-year term, if the licensee or certificate holder:

(1) Otherwise is entitled to be licensed or certified;

(2) Pays to the Board the renewal fee set by the Board;

(3) Submits to the Board a renewal application on the form that the Board requires; and

(4) Submits satisfactory evidence of compliance with any continuing education requirements as required by the Board for license or certificate renewal.

(e) [The Board may not authorize home study towards the completion of the continuing education requirements.

(f)] (1) The Board shall renew the license or certificate of and issue a renewal license or certificate to each licensee or certificate holder who meets the requirements of this section.

(2) The Board shall include the term of the renewal on each renewal license or certificate that the Board issues.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2011.

Approved by the Governor, May 19, 2011.