

HOUSE BILL 1652

J2

EMERGENCY BILL

7lr3780

By: **Delegates Pena–Melnik and West**

Rules suspended

Introduced and read first time: March 7, 2017

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Occupations – Certified Supervised Counselors–Alcohol and Drug –**
3 **Qualifications**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing an applicant, in order to qualify as a certified supervised
5 counselor–alcohol and drug, to complete supervised work experience as specified in
6 regulation in lieu of satisfying a certain internship requirement; making this Act an
7 emergency measure; and generally relating to qualifications of certified supervised
8 counselors–alcohol and drug.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Health Occupations
11 Section 17–404
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Health Occupations**

17 17–404.

18 (a) To qualify as a certified supervised counselor–alcohol and drug, an applicant
19 shall:

20 (1) Be of good moral character;

21 (2) At a minimum:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (i) Hold an associate's degree from a regionally accredited
2 educational institution in a health and human services counseling field; or

3 (ii) Hold an associate's degree from a regionally accredited
4 educational institution and have completed a program of studies judged by the Board to be
5 substantially equivalent in subject matter; and

6 (3) Have a minimum of 24 semester credit hours or 37 quarter credit hours
7 including:

8 (i) A 3 semester credit hour or 5 quarter credit hour course taken at
9 a regionally accredited educational institution in each of the following courses:

- 10 1. Medical aspects of chemical dependency;
- 11 2. Addictions treatment delivery; and
- 12 3. Ethics that includes alcohol and drug counseling issues;

13 (ii) Any three of the following 3 semester credit hour or 5 quarter
14 credit hour courses taken at a regionally accredited educational institution:

- 15 1. Group counseling;
- 16 2. Individual counseling;
- 17 3. Family counseling;
- 18 4. Theories of counseling;
- 19 5. Human development;
- 20 6. Abnormal psychology;
- 21 7. Topics in substance-related and addictive disorders; and
- 22 8. Treatment of co-occurring disorders; and

23 (iii) **[An] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, AN**
24 **internship in alcohol and drug counseling that totals 6 semester credit hours or 10 quarter**
25 **credit hours.**

26 **(B) IN LIEU OF SATISFYING THE INTERNSHIP REQUIREMENT IN**
27 **SUBSECTION (A)(3)(III) OF THIS SECTION, AN APPLICANT MAY COMPLETE**
28 **SUPERVISED WORK EXPERIENCE AS SPECIFIED IN REGULATION.**

29 **[(b)] (C)** Except as otherwise provided in this title, the applicant shall pass:

1 (1) An examination approved by the Board under this title; and

2 (2) The law examination on this title administered by the Board.

3 **[(c)] (D)** A certified supervised counselor—alcohol and drug shall practice alcohol
4 and drug counseling under the supervision of a Board—approved alcohol and drug
5 supervisor who is:

6 (1) A licensed clinical alcohol and drug counselor;

7 (2) A certified professional counselor—alcohol and drug;

8 (3) A certified associate counselor—alcohol and drug;

9 (4) A licensed clinical professional counselor;

10 (5) A licensed clinical marriage and family therapist;

11 (6) A licensed clinical professional art therapist; or

12 (7) A health care provider licensed under this article with documented
13 expertise in alcohol and drug counseling.

14 **[(d)] (E)** A certified supervised counselor—alcohol and drug:

15 (1) May provide only:

16 (i) Alcohol and drug counseling as an employee of an agency or
17 facility that is certified or licensed by the State; and

18 (ii) Alcohol and drug counseling under the supervision of a
19 Board—approved supervisor as specified in subsection **[(c)] (D)** of this section; and

20 (2) May not:

21 (i) Provide supervision; or

22 (ii) Practice independently.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency
24 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has
25 been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three—fifths of all the members elected to
26 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is
27 enacted.