A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

State Board of Social Work Examiners – Temporary License to Practice Social Work

FOR the purpose of authorizing the State Board of Social Work Examiners to issue a temporary license to practice social work; and generally relating to a temporary license to practice social work.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Health Occupations
Section 19–101(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2021 Replacement Volume)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Health Occupations
Section 19–101(e) and 19–310(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2021 Replacement Volume)

BY adding to

Article – Health Occupations
Section 19–101(u) and 19–309.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2021 Replacement Volume)

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

Article – Health Occupations

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
(a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

(e) “License” means, unless the context requires otherwise:

(1) One of four categories of licenses issued by the Board authorizing an individual to practice:

[(1)] (I) Bachelor social work;

[(2)] (II) Master social work;

[(3)] (III) Certified social work; or

[(4)] (IV) Certified social work–clinical; OR

(2) A temporary license issued by the Board.

(u) “Temporary license” means a license issued by the Board under, and as limited by, § 19–309.1 of this title to practice:

(1) Bachelor social work; or

(2) Master social work.

19–309.1.

(A) If an examination required under this subtitle is unavailable to an applicant for a period of at least 7 days, the Board may issue a temporary license to an applicant who, except for passing the examination, has met the appropriate education and experience requirements of this subtitle for a license issued under § 19–302 of this subtitle to practice:

(1) Bachelor social work; or

(2) Master social work.

(B) A temporary license issued under this section authorizes the holder to practice social work in the State only under the supervision of a Board–approved supervisor while the temporary license is effective.

(C) A temporary license is valid until 90 days after the
EXAMINATION BECOMES READILY AVAILABLE TO THE APPLICANT.

(a) Unless the Board agrees to accept the surrender of a license, a licensed social worker OR THE HOLDER OF A TEMPORARY LICENSE may not surrender the license nor may the license lapse by operation of law while the licensee is under investigation or while charges are pending against the social worker.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2022.