A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning Health Occupations – Psychologists – Doctoral Degrees

FOR the purpose of altering the definition of “doctoral degree in psychology” to include a certain postdoctoral respecialization certificate for purposes of licensure by the State Board of Psychologists; and generally relating to psychologists and doctoral degrees.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Health Occupations
Section 18–101(c) 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

18–101.

(c) (1) “Doctoral degree in psychology” means:

(i) A degree received from a program that at the time the degree was awarded:

1. Is accredited by the American Psychological Association or the Canadian Psychological Association; or

2. Is listed in the designated doctoral programs in psychology published by the Council for the National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology; [or]
A POSTDOCTORAL RE.Specialization Certificate from
a program that at the time the certificate was awarded was offered
through a degree program that is accredited by the American
Psychological Association or the Canadian Psychological Association;
or

A doctoral degree in psychology that the Council for the
National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology determines meets its criteria
for a doctoral degree in psychology, if the degree was received from a doctoral program in
psychology that:

1. Is located outside the United States and Canada;
2. Is currently accredited or designated in accordance with
item (i) of this paragraph, but was not accredited or designated at the time the degree was
awarded;
3. Was completed prior to 1981 for United States programs;
4. Was completed prior to 1988 for Canadian programs; or
5. Is no longer in existence.

A determination by the Council under paragraph [(1)(ii)] (1)(III)
of this subsection that a doctoral degree in psychology meets its criteria shall be considered
by the Board as prima facie evidence that the degree meets those criteria.

In determining whether the degree in psychology meets the
criteria described in paragraph [(1)(ii)] (1)(III) of this subsection and subparagraph (i) of
this paragraph, the Board may consider the completion of postdoctoral course work in
psychology, not to exceed 9 semester hours.

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