

# SENATE BILL 872

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EMERGENCY BILL

3lr2666

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By: **Senator M. Washington**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2023

Assigned to: Finance

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Board of Social Work Examiners – Temporary License to Practice Social**  
3 **Work**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the State Board of Social Work Examiners to issue a  
5 temporary license to practice social work to certain applicants who meet certain  
6 requirements; and generally relating to a temporary license to practice social work.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

8 Article – Health Occupations

9 Section 19–101(a)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

13 Article – Health Occupations

14 Section 19–101(e) and 19–310(a)

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

17 BY adding to

18 Article – Health Occupations

19 Section 19–101(u) and 19–309.1

20 Annotated Code of Maryland

21 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

22 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

23 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

24 **Article – Health Occupations**

25 19–101.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

2 (e) “License” means, unless the context requires otherwise[, one]:

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

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

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

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

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

9 (2) A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.

10 (U) “TEMPORARY LICENSE” MEANS A LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD  
11 UNDER, AND AS LIMITED BY, § 19–309.1 OF THIS TITLE TO PRACTICE:

12 (1) MASTER SOCIAL WORK; OR

13 (2) CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORK—CLINICAL.

14 **19–309.1.**

15 (A) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A TEMPORARY LICENSE TO AN APPLICANT WHO,  
16 EXCEPT FOR PASSING AN EXAMINATION OTHERWISE REQUIRED UNDER THIS  
17 SUBTITLE, HAS MET THE APPROPRIATE EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE  
18 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBTITLE FOR A LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 19–302 OF THIS  
19 SUBTITLE TO PRACTICE:

20 (1) MASTER SOCIAL WORK; OR

21 (2) CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORK—CLINICAL.

22 (B) A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION AUTHORIZES THE  
23 HOLDER TO PRACTICE SOCIAL WORK IN THE STATE ONLY WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE  
24 SPECIFIC CATEGORY OF LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD WHILE THE TEMPORARY  
25 LICENSE IS EFFECTIVE.

26 (C) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A  
27 TEMPORARY LICENSE IS VALID UNTIL THE EARLIER OF:

1                   **(I) NOTIFICATION OF PERMANENT LICENSURE; OR**

2                   **(II) 2 YEARS AFTER THE DATE ON WHICH THE TEMPORARY**  
3 **LICENSE WAS ISSUED.**

4                   **(2) THE BOARD MAY RENEW A TEMPORARY LICENSE FOR AN**  
5 **ADDITIONAL TERM ONLY:**

6                   **(I) ON THE GOVERNOR'S DECLARATION OF A STATE OF**  
7 **EMERGENCY BY EXECUTIVE ORDER OR PROCLAMATION;**

8                   **(II) FOR A SERVICE MEMBER OR MILITARY SPOUSE UNDER §**  
9 **1-703 OF THIS ARTICLE; OR**

10                   **(III) FOR GOOD CAUSE ON THE WRITTEN RECOMMENDATION OF**  
11 **ONE LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER AND ONE BOARD-APPROVED SUPERVISOR OF THE**  
12 **TEMPORARY LICENSE HOLDER.**

13 19-310.

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

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