

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.
Act 78 of the Regular Session

State of Arkansas
94th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2023

As Engrossed: S1/18/23

A Bill

SENATE BILL 42

By: Senators D. Sullivan, *Irvin*

By: Representative Vaught

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE PRACTICE AND REGULATION OF
COUNSELING AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY; TO REMOVE
THE REQUIREMENTS FOR FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT AND FOR
SEEKING ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND SPECIALIZATIONS; AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE PRACTICE AND REGULATION OF
COUNSELING AND MARRIAGE AND FAMILY
THERAPY; AND TO REMOVE THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT AND FOR SEEKING
ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND SPECIALIZATIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-27-301(6)(A), concerning the supervision requirement for a licensed professional counselor, is amended to read as follows:

(6)(A) The applicant has three thousand (3,000) client contact hours of supervised ~~full-time~~ experience in professional counseling acceptable to the board.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 17-27-301(7), concerning specialty areas of a licensed professional counselor, is repealed.

~~(7)(A) The applicant has declared special competencies and demonstrated professional competence in specialty areas by having passed a~~



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~~written, oral, or situational examination or any combination thereof as the board will prescribe.~~

~~(B) Upon the examination of credentials, the board, by a majority of the board members present and voting, may consider those credentials adequate evidence of professional competence and recommend to the Chair of the Arkansas Board of Examiners in Counseling that a license be approved in that specialty.~~

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 17-27-307(c), concerning additional specialty areas of a licensed professional counselor, licensed associate counselor, licensed marriage and family therapist, or licensed associate marriage and family therapist, is repealed.

~~(c) If any licensed professional counselor, licensed associate counselor, licensed marriage and family therapist, or licensed associate marriage and family therapist duly licensed under this chapter by virtue of additional training and experience is qualified to practice in a specialty other than that for which he or she was deemed competent at the time of initial licensing and wishes to offer service under the provisions of this chapter, he or she is required to submit additional credentials and he or she is to be given the opportunity to demonstrate his or her knowledge and application thereof in areas deemed relevant to his or her specialty.~~

/s/D. Sullivan

APPROVED: 2/19/23