

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

As Engrossed: S4/19/21
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1439

By: Representative Pilkington
By: Senator C. Tucker

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO UPDATE THE VOLUNTEER HEALTH CARE ACT; TO INCLUDE THERAPISTS, ADDICTION SPECIALISTS, AND COUNSELORS IN THE VOLUNTEER HEALTHCARE PROGRAM; TO INCREASE CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS UNDER THE VOLUNTEER HEALTH CARE ACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO UPDATE THE VOLUNTEER HEALTH CARE ACT;
AND TO INCLUDE THERAPISTS, ADDICTION
SPECIALISTS, AND COUNSELORS IN THE
VOLUNTEER HEALTHCARE PROGRAM.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-8-803(5), concerning the definition of "medical professional" within the Volunteer Health Care Act, is amended to read as follows:

- (5) "Medical professional" means:
- (A) A physician, osteopathic physician, or optometric physician;
 - (B) An osteopathic physician's assistant, physician's assistant, or optometric physician's assistant;
 - (C) A chiropractic physician;
 - (D) A podiatric physician;
 - (E) A nurse licensed under § 17-87-101 et seq.;
 - (F) A dentist, ~~or~~ dental hygienist, or dental assistant;



(G) A pharmacist;

(H) An optometrist;

(I) A therapist;

(J) An addiction specialist;

(K) A counselor;

(L) A healthcare professional who is licensed, certified, or registered under Subtitle 3 of Title 17 of the Arkansas Code;

(M) A dietitian or an individual who offers dietary services; and

~~(J)~~(N) A student enrolled in an accredited program that prepares the student for licensure in one (1) or more of the healthcare professions listed in subdivisions~~(5)(A)-(H)~~ (5)(A)-(L) of this section.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 20-8-805(b), concerning the continuing education credit within the Volunteer Health Care Act, is amended to read as follows:

(b) A medical professional shall not obtain more than ~~eight (8)~~ thirty-two (32) hours of credits as described in subsection (a) of this section in a licensing period.

/s/Pilkington