

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
114TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1412, L.D. 1964, Bill, "An Act to Amend the Educational Qualifications for Licensure as a Social Worker"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

32 MRSA §7053, sub-§3, as amended by PL 1985, c. 736, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

3. Licensed social worker. To be qualified to be licensed as a social worker an applicant must meet one of the following requirements.

A. The applicant must have received a bachelor's degree in social work or social welfare from an accredited educational institution; demonstrated to the satisfaction of the board adherence to the ethics of the social worker profession; and successfully completed the examination prescribed by the board.

B. The applicant must have received a bachelor's degree in a related field from an institution that, at the time the degree was received, did not have a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education but subsequently offered such a program; demonstrated to the satisfaction of the board adherence to the ethics of the social worker profession; and successfully completed the examination prescribed by the board.

The board shall issue rules, in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375, by which an individual who has a bachelor's degree that does not qualify under paragraph A or B may be eligible for a license.

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FISCAL NOTE

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This bill may result in some minor increases in dedicated revenue to the State Board of Social Worker Licensure.'

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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Currently a bachelor's degree in social work or social welfare is necessary to be licensed as a social worker. The Board of Social Worker Licensure may by rule stipulate whether and how additional areas of study may qualify.

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The original bill added a degree in sociology to the degrees which qualify for a social worker license. This amendment adds any related degree that was granted by an institution prior to that institution's offering a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

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This amendment also adds a fiscal note.

Reported by the Committee on Business Legislation
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