

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

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Legislative Document

No. 959

S.P. 357

Received by the Secretary, March 6, 1991

Referred to the Committee on Business Legislation and 1400 ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 14.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot  
Cosponsored by Senator CLARK of Cumberland.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

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An Act to Exempt Certain Persons from the Counselors Licensure Laws.

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Printed on recycled paper



Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

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4       Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §13858, sub-§6, as enacted by PL 1989, c. 895,  
§14, is amended to read:

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8       6. Existing counselors. Those individuals who hold at  
least a master's degree or its equivalent in counseling, an  
allied mental health field, or in a behavioral or social science,  
and were actively engaged as a counselor for at least 2 of the  
10 preceding 5 years prior to January 1, 1990 1992, are deemed to  
12 have met all the requirements for licensure ~~and may sit for the~~  
examination.

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Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §13860, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1989, c. 895,  
§16, is further amended to read:

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18       2. Continuing education and supervision. The board, by  
rule, ~~may shall~~ establish continuing education and supervision  
20 requirements. Applicants for renewal of license must show proof  
of satisfying the continuing education requirements set forth by  
the board.

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#### STATEMENT OF FACT

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28       Beginning on October 1, 1992, persons who wish to practice  
as professional counselors, marriage and family therapists or  
pastoral counselors must be licensed. Current law provides that  
30 persons who were in practice prior to January 1, 1990 may meet  
the educational component of the licensing requirements with a  
degree that is not in a directly related discipline.

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34       This bill expands that provision to exempt from all the  
requirements for licensure those individuals who hold a master's  
36 degree or its equivalent in an allied field and were actively  
engaged as counselors for at least 2 of the preceding 5 years  
prior to January 1, 1992.

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40       The bill also requires the Board of Counseling Professionals  
licensure to establish continuing education and supervision  
requirements.