

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DATE: 3/22/94

(Filing No. S- 479 )

**BUSINESS LEGISLATION**

Reported by: Senator Cianchette of Somerset

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**STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
116TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 705, L.D. 1902, Bill, "An Act Regarding Registration for the Provision of Substance Abuse Counseling Services"

Amend the bill in section 1 by striking out all of subsection 5 (page 1, lines 6 to 13 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following:

'5. Other licensed professionals. Nothing in this chapter may prevent any other licensed ~~counseling-professional~~ person in the field of medicine, psychology, nursing, social work or professional counseling who is qualified to provide substance abuse counseling services by virtue of the requirements for that profession from engaging in or offering substance abuse counseling services if such a person does not profess to be providing the primary service of a substance abuse counselor as the sole professional service rendered by that person. These professionals may not be required to obtain additional certification in order to provide substance abuse counseling services as permitted by this subsection.'

**STATEMENT OF FACT**

Under current law, a person may not profess to be a substance abuse counselor and practice substance abuse counseling unless licensed as a substance abuse counselor, except that other licensed counseling professionals may provide substance abuse counseling if they do not profess to be providing the primary service of substance abuse counseling.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

2025

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 705, L.D. 1902

2           The original bill added licensed professionals in the fields  
4 of medicine, nursing and social work to the list of those who  
6 could practice substance abuse counseling, restated the term  
8 "counseling professional" to read "licensed person in the field  
10 of professional counseling" and added the provision that a person  
12 in any of these excepted professions must be qualified by virtue  
14 of the requirements of the profession. The amendment adds  
psychology to the list of excepted professions, allows the  
practice of substance abuse counseling by the excepted  
professionals as long as substance abuse counseling is not the  
sole practice of the excepted professionals and prohibits the  
requiring of additional certification in order for these excepted  
professionals to practice substance abuse counseling.