

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

DATE: 4-16-97

(Filing No. H-216)

**MINORITY  
BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
118TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 837, L.D. 1142, Bill, "An Act to Require That Only Licensed Substance Abuse Counselors Treat Substance Abuse Problems"

Amend the bill in section 2 in that part designated "§6220." in the first paragraph in the 2nd and 3rd lines (page 1, lines 26 and 27 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "a national certification reciprocity consortium" and inserting in its place the following: 'an international certification reciprocity consortium for alcohol and other drugs'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

**FISCAL NOTE**

The requirement that all licensed professionals who provide substance abuse counseling must first pass examinations given by the State Board of Alcohol and Drug Counselors within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation will increase the board's dedicated revenues and expenditures. The amounts will depend on the number of licensed professionals who decide to offer substance abuse counseling under the new requirements, which can not be determined at this time.

The providers of agencies funded by the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services will incur additional costs in order to allow existing staff to

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

2 continue to provide substance abuse counseling services. These  
3 additional costs, including the cost of preparing individuals for  
4 the examinations, may increase the cost per unit of service  
5 purchased by the department, resulting in the need for additional  
6 General Fund appropriations or service reductions.

7 The additional workload and administrative costs associated  
8 with the minimal number of new cases filed in the court system  
9 can be absorbed within the budgeted resources of the Judicial  
10 Department. The collection of additional fines may increase  
11 General Fund revenue by minor amounts.'

### 14 SUMMARY

16 This amendment clarifies that the State Board of Alcohol and  
17 Drug Counselors may waive examination for applicants if the  
18 international certification reciprocity consortium for alcohol  
19 and other drugs recognizes that the person has met requirements  
20 equivalent to state licensing requirements for substance abuse  
21 counselors.  
22