

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1911

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DATE: Feb. 22, 2002

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BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Reported by:

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
120TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P. 709, L.D. 1911, Bill, "An Act Regarding Certain Educational Requirements for Licensed Social Workers"

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

'Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §7053, sub-§3, as amended by PL 2001, c. 316, §2, is further amended to read:

3. Requirements to be a licensed social worker on or before September 30, 2003. On or before ~~June-30,--2002~~ September 30, 2003, the board may issue a license to an applicant who meets at least one of the requirements set out in this subsection:

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; or

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

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2 profession; and successfully completed the examination
prescribed by the board.

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

8 The board may not issue a licensed social worker conditional
10 license under this subsection after ~~June 30, 2002~~ September 30,
2003. Individuals who have met the requirements of this
12 subsection and have a licensed social worker conditional license
issued prior to ~~June 30, 2002~~ September 30, 2003, may continue to
14 work towards full licensure as a licensed social worker under
this subsection.

16 **Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §7053, sub-§3-A**, as corrected by RR 2001, c.
18 1, §41, is amended to read:

20 **3-A. Requirements for licensed social worker after**
September 30, 2003. Except for those who meet the requirements
22 for licensure as a social worker under section 7053, subsection
3, after ~~June 30, 2002~~ September 30, 2003, the board may issue a
24 conditional license or a license to an applicant who meets the
requirements set out in this subsection.

26 A. Requirements for a conditional license for a licensed
28 bachelor social worker include:

30 (1) Documented proof of a bachelor's degree in social
work or social welfare from an institution in candidacy
32 for accreditation from the Council on Social Work
Education or a successor organization;

34 (2) Three letters of professional recommendation
36 written within one year of receipt by the board, 2 of
which are provided by licensed social workers from any
38 state;

40 (3) Evidence of employment in a social service
delivery field;

42 (4) Evidence of an arrangement of consultation to be
44 provided by one of the following:

46 (a) A licensed social worker with at least 5
years' experience;

48 (b) A licensed master social worker;

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- 2 (c) A licensed clinical social worker; or
- 4 (d) A certified social worker - independent practice;
- 6 (5) Payment of the application and license fee; and
- 8 (6) Demonstration to the satisfaction of the board adherence to the ethics of the social worker profession.

10 B. Requirements for a licensed social worker after ~~June-30,~~
12 2002 September 30, 2003 include:

14 (1) Documented proof of a bachelor's degree in social
16 work or social welfare from an accredited educational
18 institution. If an applicant provides documented proof
20 of a bachelor's degree in social work or social welfare
22 from a program in candidacy for accreditation with the
24 Council on Social Work Education or a successor
26 organization, then the applicant must provide
28 documented proof of 96 hours of consultation provided
by a licensed social worker with at least 2 years' experience, a licensed master social worker, a licensed clinical social worker or a certified social worker - independent practice. This consultation must be concurrent with 3,200 hours of social work employment occurring in a period not less than 2 years but not more than 4 years;

30 (2) An applicant with less than 2 years of social work
32 employment must provide evidence of an arrangement of
consultation provided by:

- 34 (a) A licensed social worker with at least 2
36 years' experience;
- 38 (b) A licensed master social worker;
- 40 (c) A licensed clinical social worker; or
- 42 (d) A certified social worker - independent
practice;

44 (3) Documentation of successfully passing the required
46 examination;

48 (4) Three letters of professional recommendation
50 written within one year of receipt by the board of
which 2 are provided by social workers licensed in any
state. If the applicant is conditionally licensed as a

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- 2 licensed social worker, one recommendation must be from
the consultant to the applicant's conditional license;
- 4 (5) Evidence of employment in a social service
delivery field;
- 6 (6) Payment of the application and license fee; and
- 8 (7) Demonstration to the satisfaction of the board
10 adherence to the ethics of the social worker
profession.'
- 12

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

16

FISCAL NOTE

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20 The State Board of Social Worker Licensure within the
Department of Professional and Financial Regulation will incur
22 some minor additional costs to notify licensees of the change in
licensing requirements. These costs can be absorbed within the
board's existing budgeted resources.'

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SUMMARY

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30 This amendment replaces the bill and extends the deadline
for when new educational requirements become effective to
September 30, 2003. It also adds a fiscal note to the bill.