

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2002

Legislative Document

No. 1911

S.P. 709

In Senate, December 17, 2001

An Act Regarding Certain Educational Requirements for Licensed Social Workers.

Submitted by the Department of Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Received by the Secretary of the Senate on December 17, 2001. Referred to the Committee on Business and Economic Development and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela L. Cahill".

PAMELA L. CAHILL
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator DAGGETT of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Senator LONGLEY of Waldo, Representative: DUGAY of Cherryfield.

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

2
4 **Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §7001-A, sub-§8**, as amended by PL 2001, c. 316, §1, is further amended to read:

6 **8. Licensed social worker.** A "licensed social worker" is a
8 person who has received a license as a licensed social worker
10 from the board. ~~In accordance with the provisions of section
7053, subsection 3-A, "licensed social worker" includes a person
who has received a conditional license as a licensed social
worker.~~

12 **Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §7053, sub-§3**, as amended by PL 2001, c. 316,
14 §2, is further amended to read:

16 **3. Requirements to be a licensed social worker.** ~~On or
before June 30, 2002, the board may issue a license to an
18 applicant who meets at least one of the requirements set out in
this subsection~~ To be qualified to be licensed as a social worker
20 an applicant must meet one of the following requirements:

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

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

38 The board shall issue rules, in accordance with the Maine
40 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.

42 ~~The board may not issue a licensed social worker conditional
44 license under this subsection after June 30, 2002. Individuals
who have met the requirements of this subsection and have a
46 licensed social worker conditional license issued prior to June
30, 2002, may continue to work towards full licensure as a
48 licensed social worker under this subsection.~~

2 **Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §7053, sub-§3-A**, as corrected by RR 2001, c.
1, §41, is repealed.

4 **Sec. 4. 32 MRSA §7053-A, sub-§4, ¶E**, as amended by PL 2001, c.
316, §4, is further amended to read:

6 E. Participate in training and education of social work
8 students from an accredited institution ~~or--an-educational~~
10 ~~institution-in-candidacy-for-accreditation-with-the-Council~~
~~on-Social-Work-Education-or-a-successor-organization~~ and
supervise other licensed social workers.

12 **Sec. 5. 32 MRSA §7060, last ¶**, as enacted by PL 2001, c. 316,
14 §5, is repealed.

16 **Sec. 6. Retroactivity.** This Act applies retroactively to
18 September 21, 2001.

20 **SUMMARY**

22 This bill reverses changes made by Public Law 2001, chapter
24 316, which created the position of licensed bachelor social
worker and established standards and educational requirements for
26 the position. The bill also has a retroactivity provision to
reverse those changes to their effective date of September 21,
2001.