

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1010

DATE: 5.10.05

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BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
122ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 350, L.D. 1010, Bill, "An Act To Modify the Transition Provision for Renewal of Social Worker Licenses"

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

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §7053, sub-§3-C, ¶B, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 429, §4 and affected by §7 and amended by c. 689, Pt. B, §6, is further amended to read:

B. A person who receives a conditional license as a licensed social worker on or after January 1, 2004 must complete the following requirements for consultation.

(1) A person who is not an employee of the Department of Health and Human Services must complete a minimum of 96 hours of consultation as determined by the board. This consultation must be concurrent with the first 3,200 hours of social work employment occurring in a period of not less than 2 years but not more than 4 years. For purposes of fulfilling the requirement of 96 hours of consultation during the first 3,200 hours of social work employment, a licensed social worker who practiced social work and obtained social work consultation hours in a long-term care setting and who held a valid license as of September 13, 2003 may count consultation hours that were obtained prior to August 3, 2004, whether the consultation hours were obtained

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in individual or group settings, if the consultation was provided by a licensed social worker, regardless of the group size and the eligibility requirements of the consulting licensed social worker.

(2) A person who is an employee of the Department of Health and Human Services must complete a minimum of 96 hours of consultation with a licensed social worker who has been licensed for at least 4 years or a licensed master social worker. This consultation must be concurrent with the first 3,200 hours of social work employment occurring in a period of not less than 2 years but not more than 4 years.

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §7060, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 429, §6 and affected by §7 and amended by c. 689, Pt. B, §6, is further amended to read:

1. **Not employee of Department of Health and Human Services.** If not employed by the Department of Health and Human Services, provide documentation of 96 hours of consultation as determined by the board during the first 3,200 hours of social work employment in a period of not less than 2 years but not more than 4 years. For purposes of fulfilling the requirement of 96 hours of consultation during the first 3,200 hours of social work employment, a licensed social worker who practiced social work and obtained social work consultation hours in a long-term care setting and who held a valid license as of September 13, 2003 may count consultation hours that were obtained prior to August 3, 2004, whether the consultation hours were obtained in individual or group settings, if the consultation was provided by a licensed social worker, regardless of the group size and the eligibility requirements of the consulting licensed social worker; or'

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill. It provides that social workers employed in long-term care settings and licensed as of September 13, 2003, the effective date of Public Law 2003, chapter 429, which extended a 96-hour consultation requirement to all social workers, may fulfill the consultation requirements by counting consultation hours that were obtained prior to August 3, 2004. Consultation hours obtained prior to August 3, 2004 that satisfy the standards set by the Department of Health and Human Services will be recognized and accepted by the State Board of Social Worker Licensure. As of August 2, 2004, the board

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 350, L.D. 1010

2 required that the consultation must be provided either
3 individually or in a group of not more than 8 members. The
4 board's prior practices had recognized consultation in groups of
5 20 members or more.

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FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



Approved: 05/05/05 *MAC*

122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1010

LR 0934(02)

An Act To Modify the Transition Provision for Renewal of Social Worker Licenses

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment 'A'

Committee: Business, Research and Economic Development

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs to the State Board of Social Worker Licensure within the Office of Licensing and Registration, Department of Professional and Financial Regulation can be absorbed utilizing existing budgeted resources.