

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 12

H.P. 7

House of Representatives, January 5, 2009

**Resolve, Directing the Department of Professional and Financial
Regulation To Amend Its Rules Governing Pastoral Counselors**

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development suggested
and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative SCHATZ of Blue Hill.
Cosponsored by Senator DAMON of Hancock and
Representatives: BERRY of Bowdoinham, EATON of Sullivan.

1 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** this legislation needs to take effect before the expiration of the 90-day
4 period in order for decisions regarding licensing of pastoral counselors to be made in a
5 timely fashion; and

6 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
7 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
8 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
9 therefore, be it

10 **Sec. 1. Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Office of**
11 **Licensing and Registration, Board of Counseling Professionals Licensure to**
12 **amend rules. Resolved:** That the Department of Professional and Financial
13 Regulation, Office of Licensing and Registration, Board of Counseling Professionals
14 Licensure shall amend its rules governing licensed pastoral counselors to provide that the
15 requirement for 400 contact hours in clinical pastoral education in a program accredited
16 by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education be changed to a requirement for 400
17 contact hours in clinical pastoral education in a program accredited by the Association for
18 Clinical Pastoral Education or an equivalent organization. Rulemaking undertaken
19 pursuant to this resolve is routine technical rulemaking as described in the Maine Revised
20 Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A; and be it further

21 **Sec. 2. Application. Resolved:** That the rules as amended pursuant to this
22 resolve apply to an application for a license as a pastoral counselor filed on or after July
23 1, 2007.

24 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this
25 legislation takes effect when approved.

26 **SUMMARY**

27 This resolve directs the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Office
28 of Licensing and Registration, Board of Counseling Professionals Licensure to amend its
29 rules governing licensed pastoral counselors to provide that the requirement for 400
30 contact hours in clinical pastoral education in a program accredited by the Association for
31 Clinical Pastoral Education be changed to a requirement for 400 contact hours in clinical
32 pastoral education in a program accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral
33 Education or an equivalent organization. The rules as amended pursuant to this resolve
34 apply to an application filed on or after July 1, 2007.

35