



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

**2017 Assembly Bill 29**

**Senate Substitute Amendment 1**

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### **BACKGROUND**

An applicant for a clinical social worker license must complete at least 3,000 hours of supervised clinical social work practice, including at least 1,000 hours of face-to-face client contact. The Social Worker Section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling, and Social Work Examining Board's (Board) current rules require that the 1,000 hours of face-to-face client contact must include training based on the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM).

The Board has taken the position that it lacks statutory authority to continue to enforce this portion of its rules, and submitted a proposed rule that eliminates the requirement that face-to-face client contact include training in DSM. During the rule promulgation process, the Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules objected to the Board's proposed rule on the grounds that it "could result in an emergency relating to the public health, safety and welfare," and subsequently introduced 2017 Assembly Bill 29 to support its objection.

### **2017 ASSEMBLY BILL 29**

The bill states that the 1,000 hours of face-to-face client contact must include a number of hours, as determined by the Board, of diagnosis and treatment of individuals based on a standard diagnostic protocol approved by the Board.

### **SENATE SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1**

Senate Substitute Amendment 1 states that the 1,000 hours of face-to-face client contact must include training in either DSM or its equivalent, as determined by the Board. It also allows

the Board discretion to establish a number of training hours, not to exceed 600, that must be in DSM or its equivalent.

**BILL HISTORY**

Senator Nass offered Senate Substitute Amendment 1 on January 9, 2018. On February 9, 2018, the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services unanimously recommended adoption of Senate Substitute Amendment 1 and adoption of the bill as amended. On February 20, 2018, the Senate and Assembly adopted Senate Substitute Amendment 1.

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