

DRAFTER'S NOTE
FROM THE
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

LRB-0822/1dn

MDK:cmh:km

March 5, 1999

Representative Urban:

This bill is based on 1997 Assembly Bill 517, except that, based on instructions from Dismas Becker, the bill imposes licensing requirements for independent clinical social workers, marriage and family therapists and professional counselors and retains the certification requirements under current law for social workers, advanced practice social workers and independent social workers. In addition, please note the following about the bill:

1. What is your intent regarding the Colorado law that imposes certain qualifications in order to conduct certain testing? That law's provisions are not incorporated in this bill because I am not sure how they relate to the rest of the request. Do you want to prohibit anyone, including individuals who are licensed as independent clinical social workers, marriage and family therapists and professional counselors, from conducting these tests unless the person demonstrates that the person is qualified? Or should licensed individuals be exempted from the qualifications? Under the bill, an individual must have at least a master's degree to be eligible for a license. Is the master's degree sufficient to assure that a licensed individual is qualified to conduct the tests? Please contact me so that I may revise the bill accordingly.

2. Do you want to incorporate the Colorado law's definition of professional counseling in the bill? The bill does not incorporate the definition because you also requested that the scope of practice for the 3 licensed professions should be the same as under 1997 Assembly Bill 517.

3. Under the bill, an individual does not have to be licensed to practice independent social work or advanced practice social work. Therefore, the bill eliminates the definitions of these practices.

4. Please review the definition of "psychotherapy", which incorporates the definition at s. 457.01 (8m), stats., as well as the suggested language regarding testing.

5. Do the amendments of ss. 457.08 (4) (b), 457.10 (2) (a) and 457.12 (2), stats., reflect your intent regarding the 60 credit hours?

6. The bill does not change the 2-year supervision requirements of s. 457.08 (3) (c), 457.10 (3) and 457.12 (3) (a), stats. Is this okay?

7. I do not understand your instructions regarding the treatment of school counselors. The bill makes no changes to their treatment under current law. Is this okay?

If you have any questions, please contact me.

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