AN ACT to renumber and amend 457.08 (4) (b) of the statutes; relating to:

qualifications for a clinical social worker license and granting rule-making authority.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the social worker section of the Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Work Examining Board grants licenses to different types of social workers, including clinical social workers. For a clinical social worker license, an applicant must satisfy specified requirements, including having a master’s or doctorate degree in social work. In addition, as part of the master’s or doctorate degree program, the applicant must have completed a clinical social worker concentration and supervised clinical field training.

Under this bill, an applicant is allowed to have completed the concentration and field training as part of postgraduate studies or, as under current law, as part of a master’s or doctorate degree program. In addition, regardless of whether the concentration and field training have been completed as part of postgraduate studies or a master’s or doctorate degree program, the bill specifies that the concentration and field training must be approved by the social worker section. Also, the bill allows the board, with the advice of the social worker section, to promulgate rules allowing
an applicant to substitute a specified number of hours of supervised clinical work experience for the field training.

_The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:_

**SECTION 1.** 457.08 (4) (b) of the statutes is renumbered 457.08 (4) (b) (intro.) and amended to read:

457.08 (4) (b) (intro.) Submits evidence satisfactory to the social worker section that he or she has satisfies each of the following:

1. The individual has received a master’s degree in social work from a program accredited by, or a preaccreditation program of, the council on social work education or a doctorate degree in social work and, as

2. As part of the master’s or doctorate degree program, had specified in subd. 1, or postgraduate studies, the individual has completed a clinical social work concentration and completed supervised clinical field training, both of which are approved by the social worker section, except that, upon the advice of the social worker section, the examining board may promulgate rules that allow an individual to substitute a specified number of hours of supervised clinical work experience for the supervised clinical field training.

**SECTION 2. Initial applicability.**

(1) This act first applies to applications for a clinical social worker license that are received on the effective date of this subsection.