
AN ACT to amend 457.08 (4) (c) (intro.) of the statutes; relating to: practice requirement for licensure as a clinical social worker.

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 must grant a clinical social worker license to an individual who, among other things, has engaged in the equivalent of at least 3,000 hours of supervised clinical social work practice, including at least 1,000 hours of face-to-face client contact. Under this bill, that 1,000 hours of face-to-face client contact must include the diagnosis and treatment of individuals based on a standard diagnostic protocol approved by the board for a number of hours determined by the board.

The bill is introduced as required by s. 227.19 (5) (g), stats., in support of the objection of the Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules to promulgation by the board of a portion of clearinghouse rule number 14–057. The relevant portion of the proposed rule provides for the elimination of the requirement that an applicant for licensure as a clinical social worker complete training in the diagnosis and treatment of individuals based on the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, commonly referred to as the DSM.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:
SECTION 1. 457.08 (4) (c) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

457.08 (4) (c) (intro.) Submits evidence satisfactory to the social worker section that after receiving a master’s or doctorate degree in social work he or she has engaged in the equivalent of at least 3,000 hours of clinical social work practice supervised by one of the following, including at least 1,000 hours of face-to-face client contact, supervised by one of the following that shall include a number of hours, as determined by the examining board, of diagnosis and treatment of individuals based on a standard diagnostic protocol approved by the examining board:

(END)