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DIGEST

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SB 426 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

Stine

Present law establishes the Addictive Disorders Regulatory Authority (ADRA) as the licensing board with the responsibility and authority to regulate the practice of addictive disorder treatment and prevention.

Proposed law adds that ADRA shall issue and recognize credentials for professionals engaged in providing substance use disorder counseling, prevention, and peer support services for those who suffer from behavioral health conditions.

Present law provides for the membership of ADRA.

Proposed law changes the number of members from 8 to 11 and adds representation from the office of behavioral health and higher education and a peer support specialist.

Proposed law provides for additional qualifications for board members, except for the consumer member.

Present law provides for definitions.

Proposed law adds definitions for "behavioral health condition", "credentialing", "licensed mental health professional", "peer support", "peer support specialist", "peer support specialist associate", and "peer support specialist supervisor".

Proposed law establishes the qualifications, scope of practice, and status renewal process for a person to be recognized by ADRA as a peer support specialist, peer support specialist associate, and peer support specialist supervisor.

Proposed law provides for an application fee of not less than \$50 and not more than \$300, an examination fee of not less than \$100 and not more than \$300, and a renewal fee of not less than \$100 and not more than \$300 for a peer support specialist, associate, or supervisor.

Present law prohibits a person from being disqualified from employment as a peer support specialist with a licensed behavioral health services provider if the person's criminal background check reveals certain convictions if the person meets requirements established in present law, including successfully completing the La. Dept. of Health's training and requirements.

Proposed law expands present law to apply to certified addiction counselors, registered addiction counselors, counselors in training, peer support specialists, or peer support specialist associates and changes the reference from the La. Dept. of Health to ADRA.

Proposed law requires ADRA to coordinate with the La. Dept. of Health during the transition of peer support specialists from the department to the board.

Proposed law provides that any rules promulgated by ADRA relative to peer support specialist associates, peer support specialists, and peer support supervisors shall align with federal requirements.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 37:3386.1, 3386.2(A), 3386.2(B)(5) and (6), (F), and (G), 3387.1(A)(2)(b)-(d), 3387.2(A)(2)(b)-(d), 3387.3(B)(4), 3387.6(E)(1) and (3) and (I), 3388.3, 3390.3(A)(11)

and (B)(4) and 3390.6(A) and (B)(6)-(8) and R.S. 40:1203.3(E); Adds R.S. 37:3386.2(B)(7)-(10) and (H), 3387.15, 3387.16, 3387.17, 3388.4, and 3390.6(B)(9))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Provides for additional qualifications for board members, except for the consumer member.
2. Requires ADRA to coordinate with the La. Dept. of Health during the transition of peer support specialists from the department to the board.
3. Provides that any rules promulgated by ADRA relative to peer support specialist associates, peer support specialists, and peer support supervisors shall align with federal requirements.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the reengrossed bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Provide for the transfer of duties from the La. Dept. of Health to the Addictive Disorders Regulation Authority.