

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and International Affairs to Original Senate Bill No. 121 by Senator Morrell

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 2, after "and (9)" insert "and to enact R.S. 37:1116(E)"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 6, after "reenacted" insert "and R.S. 37:1116(E) is hereby enacted"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 2, delete lines 9 through 13 and insert the following:

"§1116. Licensure application for marriage and family therapists; temporary license or registration

* * *

E. A licensed marriage and family therapist engaged in the diagnosis of individuals shall furnish satisfactory evidence of the following to the board:

(1) The applicant has graduated from a program of graduate study which in addition to the standard training in the professional application of psychotherapeutic and family systems theories, will also require a minimum of six credit hours in diagnostic psychopathology, whereas students are taught to systematically collect and analyze data based on one or both of the two standard diagnostic systems employed, International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision or the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition, for the above purposes. However, licensed marriage and family therapists who have satisfied all other criteria for licensure as required by the board on August 1, 2014, shall be allowed to diagnose individuals upon completion of the continuing education requirements of this Section.

(2) As diagnosis is constantly being enhanced by emerging empirical research, the licensed marriage and family therapist shall receive six hours of credit in continuing education that focuses on diagnosis.

(3) Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to authorize any person licensed under the provisions of this Chapter to assess, diagnose, or provide treatment to any individual suffering from a serious mental illness, as defined by this Section, when medication may be indicated, except when a licensed marriage and family therapist, in accordance with best practices, consults and collaborates with a practitioner who holds a license or permit with the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners or an advanced practice registered nurse licensed by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing who is certified as a psychiatric nurse practitioner.