

2018 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 24

BY SENATOR MILLS

COUNSELING/GUIDANCE. Provides relative to social work practice. (8/1/18)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact the introductory paragraph of R.S. 37:2703 and (15)(b) and to enact
3 R.S. 37:2703(B), relative to social work practice; to provide for an exception from
4 licensure; to provide for technical corrections; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. The introductory paragraph of R.S. 37:2703 and (15)(b) are hereby
7 amended and reenacted and R.S. 37:2703(B) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §2703. Definitions

9 A. As used in this Chapter, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, and
10 except as otherwise expressly provided:

11 * * *

12 (15)(a)

13 * * *

14 (b) ~~Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to authorize any person~~
15 ~~licensed, certified, provisionally certified, or registered hereunder to prescribe, either~~
16 ~~orally or in writing, distribute, dispense, or administer any medications. Nothing in~~
17 ~~this Chapter shall be construed to authorize any social worker licensed, certified,~~

The original instrument was prepared by Christine Arbo Peck. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Laura Gail Sullivan.

DIGEST

SB 24 Reengrossed

2018 Regular Session

Mills

Present law defines "social work practice". Proposed law excludes social work education administered by a faculty member at an accredited institution of higher education from the definition of "social work practice". Specifies that a person who serves as a faculty member in a social work program at an institution of higher education is not required to hold a license under present law, to the extent that the faculty member's activities are limited to teaching and scholarship.

Present law provides that social workers cannot prescribe, dispense, or administer medications, administer or interpret psychological tests, or engage in the practice of psychology or medicine. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that social workers may administer, use, or interpret tests of language, education and achievement, adaptive behavioral tests, and symptom screening checklists instruments, as well as tests of abilities, interests, and aptitudes. Proposed law retains present law.

Effective August 1, 2018.

(Amends R.S. 37:2703(intro para) and (15)(b); adds R.S. 37:2703(B))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by SenateCommittee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill

1. Remove service and research as faculty member activities that are exempt from requiring licensure.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Make technical changes.