
DIGEST

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HB 826 Original

2022 Regular Session

Bagley

Abstract: Expands the definition of "healthcare provider" in the La. Telehealth Access Act to include certain addiction counselors, prevention professionals, and compulsive gambling counselors.

Present law known as the La. Telehealth Access Act, R.S. 40:1223.1 et seq., defines "healthcare provider", for purposes of present law, as any of the following state-licensed or state-certified health professionals and facilities: physician assistants, hospitals, nursing homes, dentists, registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, licensed dietitians or nutritionists, licensed practical nurses, certified nurse assistants, offshore health service providers, ambulance services, licensed midwives, pharmacists, speech-language pathologists, audiologists, optometrists, podiatrists, chiropractors, physical therapists, occupational therapists, certified or licensed athletic trainers, psychologists, medical psychologists, social workers, licensed professional counselors, licensed perfusionists, licensed respiratory therapists, licensed radiologic technologists, licensed hearing aid dealers, or licensed clinical laboratory scientists.

Proposed law retains present law and expands the definition of "healthcare provider" therein to include licensed, certified, or registered addiction counselors; licensed, certified, or registered prevention professionals; and certified compulsive gambling counselors.

Present law known as the Addictive Disorders Practice Act, R.S. 37:3386 et seq., provides for powers and duties of the Addictive Disorder Regulatory Authority (ADRA) with respect to licensure, certification, registration, and regulation of certain professionals who provide addictive disorder treatment services.

Proposed law retains present law and adds thereto an authorization for the ADRA to promulgate rules for the provision of telehealth services by licensed, certified, or registered addiction counselors; licensed, certified, or registered prevention professionals; and certified compulsive gambling counselors that, at a minimum, comply with the applicable requirements and standards of present law comprising the La. Telehealth Access Act.

(Amends R.S. 40:1223.3(3); Adds R.S. 37:3386.3(B)(3))