## SLS 25RS-385

## ORIGINAL

2025 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 153

BY SENATOR SELDERS

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH. Provides relative to behavioral health rehabilitation services in the Louisiana medical assistance program. (gov sig)

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. 37:1107(A)(5) and (F), 1116(B)(3) and (C), 2707(A)(3) and
3	2724(B) and R.S. 40:2162(D)(2)(c) and to enact R.S. 40:2162(D)(2)(d), relative to
4	behavioral health rehabilitation services in the Louisiana medical assistance
5	program; to provide for limited licenses for certain individuals to provide CPST
6	services; and to provide for related matters.
7	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
8	Section 1. R.S. 37:1107(A)(5) and (F), 1116(B)(3) and (C), 2707(A)(3) and 2724(B)
9	are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
10	§1107. Requirements for licensed professional counselor; provisional license;
11	temporary license or temporary provisional license; renewal of
12	license or temporary provisional license
13	A. The board shall issue a license to each applicant who files an application
14	upon a form and in such manner as the board prescribes, accompanied by such fee
15	as required by R.S. 37:1106, and who furnishes satisfactory evidence to the board
16	that the applicant:
17	* * *

Page 1 of 6 Coding: Words which are <del>struck through</del> are deletions from existing law; words in <u>boldface type and underscored</u> are additions.

## ORIGINAL SB NO. 153

1	(5) Has declared special competencies and demonstrated professional
2	competence therein by passing a written and, at the discretion of the board, an oral
3	examination, as the board shall prescribe, except as provided in Paragraph (F)(2)
4	of this Section.
5	* * *
6	F.(1) The board may issue a provisional license as a provisional licensed
7	professional counselor to an applicant who meets qualifications established by the
8	board. The board shall adopt rules pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act
9	establishing such qualifications and requirements for the issuance of a provisional
10	license as necessary for the adequate protection of the health and welfare of the
11	residents of this state. Such qualifications shall include, at a minimum, that the
12	applicant shall be at least twenty-one years old, of good moral character, in
13	compliance with all applicable provisions of law or board regulations, and possess
14	a graduate degree the substance of which is mental health counseling.
15	(2) At the end of the provisional license period prescribed by the board,
16	any provisionally licensed counselor who has provided CPST services pursuant
17	to R.S. 40:2162 and who meets all the qualifications for licensure except for the
18	provisions of Paragraph (A)(5) of this Section shall be issued a limited scope
19	license that authorizes the individual to only provide CPST services in
20	accordance with R.S. 40:2162.
21	* * *
22	§1116. Licensure application for marriage and family therapists; provisional license;
23	temporary license or temporary provisional license
24	* * *
25	B. An applicant who meets the requirements of Subsection A of this Section
26	shall be recommended by the advisory committee to the board for issuance of a
27	license by the board upon providing satisfactory evidence to the advisory committee
28	that such person meets the following requirements:

Page 2 of 6 Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.

1	(3) Passage of an examination approved by the board, except as provided
2	in Paragraph (C)(2) of this Section.
3	C.(1) The board may issue a provisional license as a provisional licensed
4	marriage and family therapist to an applicant who meets qualifications established
5	by the board. The board shall adopt rules pursuant to the Administrative Procedure
6	Act establishing such qualifications and requirements as necessary for the adequate
7	protection of the health and welfare of the residents of this state. Such qualifications
8	shall include, at a minimum, that the applicant shall be at least twenty-one years old,
9	of good moral character, in compliance with applicable provisions of law or board
10	regulations, and possess a graduate degree in marriage and family therapy, or a
11	related clinical mental health field from a regionally accredited institution of higher
12	education, or a certificate from a postgraduate training institute in marriage and
13	family therapy.
14	(2) At the end of the provisional license period prescribed by the board,
15	any provisionally licensed marriage and family therapist who has provided
16	CPST services pursuant to R.S. 40:2162 and who meets all the qualifications for
17	licensure except for the provisions of Paragraph (B)(3) of this Section shall be
18	issued a limited scope license that authorizes the individual to only provide
19	CPST services in accordance with R.S. 40:2162.
20	* * *
21	§2707. Qualifications; licensed master's social worker
22	A. No individual shall be eligible for licensure by the board as a licensed
23	master's social worker unless the individual:
24	* * *
25	(3) Has passed an examination approved by the board, except as provided
26	<u>in R.S. 37:2724(B)(2)</u> .
27	* * *
28	§2724. Qualification; certified social worker
29	* * *

Page 3 of 6 Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.

1	B.(1) The board may issue a social worker certificate to an individual who
2	has completed all requirements for certification as a certified social worker. The
3	individual may hold the certificate for no more than three years from the issuance of
4	the original certificate.
5	(2) At the end of the three-year certification period, any certified social
6	worker who has provided CPST services pursuant to R.S. 40:2162 and who
7	meets all the qualifications for licensure as a licensed master's social worker
8	except for the provisions of R.S. 37:2707(A)(3) shall be issued a limited scope
9	license that authorizes the individual to only provide CPST services in
10	accordance with R.S. 40:2162.
11	* * *
12	Section 2. R.S. 40:2162(D)(2)(c) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.
13	40:2162(D)(2)(d) is hereby enacted to read as follows:
14	§2162. Specialized behavioral health rehabilitation services in the Louisiana medical
15	assistance program
16	* * *
17	D. In order to be eligible to receive Medicaid reimbursement, all behavioral
18	health services providers shall ensure that any individual rendering PSR or CPST
19	services for the licensed and accredited provider agency meets all of the following
20	requirements:
21	* * *
22	(2)
23	* * *
24	(c) Any individual rendering the assessment and treatment planning
25	components of CPST services for a licensed and accredited provider agency shall be
26	a fully licensed mental health professional.
27	(d) Any individual rendering any of the other components of CPST services
28	for a licensed and accredited provider agency shall be a fully licensed mental health
29	professional, a provisionally licensed professional counselor, a provisionally licensed

Page 4 of 6 Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.

1	marriage and family therapist, a licensed master social worker, a certified social
2	worker, or a psychology intern from an American Psychological Association
3	approved internship program, or an individual issued a limited scope license
4	pursuant to R.S. 37:1107(F)(2), 1116(C)(2), or 2724(B)(2).
5	* * *
6	Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
7	signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
8	by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
9	vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
10	effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

## DIGESTSB 153 Original2025 Regular SessionSelders

<u>Present law</u> defines "Community psychiatric support and treatment services" (CPST services) as CMS-approved Medicaid mental health rehabilitation services designed to reduce disability from mental illness, restore functional skills of daily living, build natural supports, and achieve identified person-centered goals or objectives through counseling, clinical psycho-education, and ongoing monitoring needs as set forth in an individualized treatment plan.

<u>Present law</u> provides that, in order to be eligible to receive Medicaid reimbursement, all behavioral health services providers shall ensure that any individual rendering CPST services for the provider agency meets certain enumerated requirements.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes the La. Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners to issue a provisionally licensed professional counselor license to an individual who meets qualifications established by the board.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that at the end of the provisional license period prescribed by the board, any provisionally licensed counselor who has provided CPST services in accordance with <u>present law</u> and who meets all the qualifications for licensure, except for passing a written or oral examination required by the board, shall be issued a limited scope license that authorizes the individual to only provide CPST services.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes the La. Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners to issue a provisional marriage and family therapist license to an individual who meets qualifications established by the board.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that at the end of the provisional license period prescribed by the board, any provisionally licensed marriage and family therapist who has provided CPST services in accordance with <u>present law</u> and who meets all the qualifications for licensure, except for passing a board-approved examination, shall be issued a limited scope license that

Page 5 of 6

Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.

authorizes the individual to only provide CPST services.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes the La. State Board of Social Work Examiners to issue a certified social worker certification for up to three years to an individual who is pursuing a master's social work license and meets qualifications established by the board.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that at the end of the three-year period, any certified social worker who has provided CPST services in accordance with <u>present law</u> and who meets all the qualifications for licensure, except for passing a board-approved examination, shall be issued a limited scope license that authorizes the individual to only provide CPST services.

<u>Present law</u> requires any individual rendering any components of CPST services, except for assessment and treatment planning components, to be a fully licensed mental health professional, a provisionally licensed professional counselor, a provisionally licensed marriage and family therapist, a licensed master social worker, a certified social worker, or a psychology intern from an American Psychological Association approved internship program.

<u>Proposed law</u> adds that individuals who have been issued a limited scope professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, or social worker license may also provide the CPST services in the same manner as a provisionally licensed professional counselor, a provisionally licensed marriage and family therapist, or a certified social worker.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 37:1107(A)(5) and (F), 1116(B)(3) and (C), 2707(A)(3) and 2724(B) and R.S. 40:2162(D)(2)(c); adds R.S. 40:2162(D)(2)(d))