

2015 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 113

BY SENATOR GALLOT

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

PSYCHOLOGISTS. Provides relative to membership of the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, qualifications of certain licensees, and maintenance of board documents and records. (8/1/15)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 37:2353(A)(2), (3), (4), (5) and (6), 2354(E), 2356(G), and 2365(D) and to enact R.S. 37:2353(A)(7), relative to the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, to provide for appointment of board members; to provide for eligibility of board members; to provide relative to qualification of certain licensees; to provide for maintenance of records; to provide for certain terms, conditions, procedures, requirements, and effects; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 37:2353(A)(2), (3), (4), (5) and (6), 2354(E), 2356(G), and 2365(D) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 37:2353(A)(7) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2353. State board of examiners; organization; duties; meetings; fees

A.(1) * * *

(2) ~~Upon expiration of the three-year terms of the members in office on September 1, 1987, and except for the transition set forth below, the **The** governor shall appoint members for terms of five years. For the two vacancies occurring July 1, 1988, one member shall be appointed for a three-year term and one member for~~

1 ~~a four-year term; for the vacancy occurring July 1, 1989, the member shall be~~
2 ~~appointed for a four-year term; and for the two vacancies occurring July 1, 1990, one~~
3 ~~member shall be appointed for a four-year term and one member for a five-year term.~~

4 A board member shall not be eligible to succeed himself. All appointments shall be
5 from a list provided by the ~~Louisiana Psychological Association~~ **board or its**
6 **designee**. The list shall report the results of an election in which persons qualified
7 for board membership may nominate themselves and in which ~~licensed members of~~
8 ~~the Louisiana Psychological Association and other~~ persons licensed under this
9 Chapter are entitled to one vote for each vacancy on the board.

10 (3) Each board member shall have rendered service, teaching, training, or
11 research in psychology for at least five years **in Louisiana**, shall have held a doctoral
12 degree in psychology from a school or college as defined in this Chapter for a period
13 of five years, and shall be licensed under this Chapter **for a minimum of five years**.

14 (4) **Notwithstanding the provisions of this Subsection, no person shall be**
15 **eligible to serve as a board member if he is employed by the board, has a**
16 **contract with the board for services, or within the preceding twelve months of**
17 **his nomination was employed by the board or had a contract with the board for**
18 **services**.

19 (5) Board members shall serve without compensation but shall receive
20 seventy-five dollars per diem allowance plus the mileage rate provided state
21 employees to cover expenses incurred while engaged in the discharge of their duties.

22 (5)(6) Membership on the board of a public employee or official shall not
23 constitute dual office holding within the meaning of R.S. 42:61 et seq.

24 (6)(7) Each appointment by the governor shall be submitted to the Senate for
25 confirmation.

26 * * *

27 §2354. Fees

28 * * *

29 E.(1) ~~The status of psychologist emeritus is hereby created. To qualify for~~

1 ~~status as psychologist emeritus, the applicant must annually make~~ **A licensed**
2 **psychologist who is sixty-five years of age or older may be eligible for a**
3 **reduction in the annual renewal fee if he makes** a satisfactory showing to the
4 board, in a manner to be determined by the board, **of all of the following:**

5 ~~(a) that the applicant is~~ **He is** sixty-five years **of age** or older.

6 ~~(b) ,has~~ **He has** held continuous licensure as a psychologist in the state for
7 at least twenty years.

8 ~~(c) ,and at~~ **At** the time of application, **he** is retired from the full-time practice
9 of psychology or any other full-time employment.

10 (2) The annual renewal fee for ~~those qualifying as psychologist emeritus a~~
11 **licensed psychologist who is eligible for a fee reduction pursuant to this**
12 **Subsection** shall be one-half of the amount of the current licensure renewal fee.

13 * * *

14 §2356. Licensure of psychologists by written and oral examination

15 * * *

16 G. The board shall ~~keep~~ **maintain as a record, in electronic or other**
17 **format, all of the following items:**

18 ~~(1) the~~ **The** written examination papers;

19 ~~(2) and an~~ **An** accurate transcript of the questions and answers relating to the
20 oral examinations;

21 ~~(3) and the~~ **The** grade assigned to each answer thereof, ~~as part of its records~~
22 ~~for at least two years subsequent to the date of examination.~~

23 * * *

24 §2365. Scope of Chapter

25 * * *

26 D. Any nonresident duly licensed or certified for independent practice as a
27 psychologist in the state of his residence, and which state will permit residents of this
28 state a like and similar privilege as provided herein, may, if ~~associated with a~~
29 ~~psychologist who is a resident of the state of Louisiana and licensed under this~~

1 Chapter an application is submitted to the board with payment of the
 2 appropriate fee, practice as a psychologist for a ~~period not to exceed~~ maximum of
 3 thirty days ~~in any~~ throughout a calendar year to the same extent and manner as if
 4 licensed in this state.

5 * * *

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Michelle Ducharme.

DIGEST

SB 113 Original

2015 Regular Session

Gallot

Present law provides for membership of the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists ("board").

Present law provides that board appointments shall be made from a list submitted by the Louisiana Psychological Association.

Proposed law provides that board appointments shall be made from a list submitted by the board or its designee.

Present law provides that each board member shall have rendered service, teaching, training, or research in psychology for at least five years, shall have held a doctoral degree in psychology from a school or college for a period of five years, and shall be licensed as a psychologist in Louisiana.

Proposed law provides each board member shall have rendered service, teaching, training, or research in psychology for at least five years in Louisiana, shall have held a doctoral degree in psychology from a school or college for a period of five years, and shall be licensed as a psychologist in Louisiana for a minimum of five years.

Proposed law provides that no person shall be eligible to serve as a board member if he is employed by the board, has a contract with the board for services, or within the preceding 12 months of his nomination, was employed by the board or had a contract with the board for services.

Present law classifies certain licensees as psychologist emeritus if certain qualifications are met and provides that a psychologist emeritus is eligible for a reduction in the annual renewal fee.

Proposed law removes the psychologist emeritus status classification and provides that a licensed psychologist who is 65 years of age or older may be eligible for a reduction in the annual renewal fee if he meets certain qualifications.

Present law provides that the board must maintain certain records for a period of two years.

Proposed law removes the two year retention period and provides that the board must maintain certain records in electronic or other format.

Present law provides that any nonresident duly licensed or certified for independent practice as a psychologist in the state of his residence, and which state will permit residents of this state a like and similar privilege as provided herein, may, if associated with a psychologist who is a resident of the state of Louisiana and licensed under the present law, practice as a

psychologist for a period not to exceed 30 days in any calendar year to the same extent and manner as if licensed in this state.

Proposed law provides that any nonresident duly licensed or certified for independent practice as a psychologist in the state of his residence, and which state will permit residents of this state a like and similar privilege as provided herein, may, if an application is submitted to the board with payment of the appropriate fee, practice as a psychologist for a maximum of 30 days throughout a calendar year to the same extent and manner as if licensed in this state

Effective August 1, 2015.

(Amends R.S. 37:2353(A)(2), (3), (4), (5) and (6), 2354(E), 2356(G), and 2365(D); adds R.S. 37:2353(A)(7))