

JAN 22 2016

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SOCIAL WORKERS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that social workers in
2 Hawaii who are working to complete their licensed clinical
3 social worker requirements must complete three thousand hours of
4 supervised work experience, one hundred hours of which must be
5 by direct face-to-face supervision. The legislature further
6 finds that certain social workers, particularly those living on
7 the less populated islands, in rural areas, and those employed
8 by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, may
9 experience difficulty meeting the direct face-to-face
10 supervision requirement. This is especially true for social
11 workers in rural areas, as there are a limited number of rural
12 social workers who are qualified to provide supervision for
13 applicants for licensure as clinical social workers.

14 The legislature additionally finds that telehealth has
15 become standard practice in social work and the mental health
16 field and should be permitted as a means of meeting the



1 supervision requirements needed for licensure as a clinical
2 social worker.

3 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to clarify the
4 supervision requirements for licensure of clinical social
5 workers, including permitting the supervision requirements to be
6 met through face-to-face supervision or via a Health Insurance
7 Portability and Accountability Act-certified video conferencing
8 service.

9 SECTION 2. Section 467E-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended to read as follows:

11 "§467E-7 Licensing requirements. Every applicant for a
12 license as a social worker shall submit evidence satisfactory to
13 the director that the applicant meets the following
14 requirements:

15 (1) For the licensed bachelor social worker, the
16 applicant:

17 (A) Holds a bachelor's degree from a college or
18 university in a social work program accredited by
19 or deemed to be equivalent to a program
20 accredited by the Council on Social Work
21 Education; and



1 (B) Has passed the basic level national examination
2 given by the Association of Social Work Boards;

3 (2) For the licensed social worker, the applicant:

4 (A) Holds a master's degree from a college or
5 university in a social work program accredited by
6 or deemed to be equivalent to an accredited
7 program by the Council on Social Work Education
8 or a doctoral degree from a doctoral degree
9 program in social work accredited by the Western
10 Association of Schools and Colleges or a
11 comparable regional accreditation body; and

12 (B) Has passed the intermediate or higher level
13 national examination given by the Association of
14 Social Work Boards; and

15 (3) For the licensed clinical social worker, the
16 applicant:

17 (A) Has met the educational requirements in paragraph
18 (2);

19 (B) Has passed the clinical level national
20 examination given by the Association of Social
21 Work Boards; and



1 (C) Has provided evidence of successful completion of
2 at least three thousand hours of post masters
3 clinical social work experience under supervision
4 completed within no fewer than two years, but
5 within no more than five years. Clinical social
6 work experience shall include a minimum of two
7 thousand hours of assessment, clinical diagnosis,
8 and psychotherapy; no more than a maximum of nine
9 hundred hours of client-centered advocacy,
10 consultation, and evaluation; and at least one
11 hundred hours of [~~direct face to face~~]
12 supervision. At least sixty of the one hundred
13 hours of [~~direct face to face~~] supervision [~~shall~~
14 ~~have been individualized supervision~~] may be
15 face-to-face or via a Health Insurance
16 Portability and Accountability Act of 1996-
17 compliant video conference service and the
18 remaining forty hours may have been under small
19 group (up to six supervisees) supervision;
20 provided that:



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- 1 (i) The supervisor shall have been a licensed
2 clinical social worker with at least four
3 thousand five hundred hours of post masters
4 clinical social work experience;
- 5 (ii) For the first five years after July 1, 2004,
6 the following individuals shall be deemed to
7 have satisfied the requirements of a
8 supervisor: a person with a master's degree
9 in social work with at least four thousand
10 five hundred hours post masters clinical
11 social work experience; an individual who
12 holds a diplomate in clinical social work or
13 a board certified diplomate certification;
14 or a board certified psychiatrist,
15 psychologist, advanced practice registered
16 nurse who has a minimum of four thousand
17 five hundred hours of post masters clinical
18 experience in assessment, clinical
19 diagnosis, and psychotherapy; and
- 20 (iii) Supervision shall have [~~occurred in an~~
21 ~~agency setting that provides~~] included



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review of clinical diagnosis and
psychotherapy.

An applicant who submits evidence of certification as a qualified clinical social worker or diplomate in clinical social work by the National Association of Social Workers or as a board certified diplomate by the American Board of Examiners shall be deemed to have satisfied the experience requirements of this subparagraph."

SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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Report Title:

Social Workers; Licensed Clinical Social Workers; Licensing Requirements; Supervision

Description:

Clarifies the supervision requirements for licensure of clinical social workers, including permitting the supervision requirements to be met through face-to-face supervision or via a Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act-certified video conferencing service.

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