

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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HOUSE BILL 1488
Committee Substitute Favorable 5/7/07
Committee Substitute #2 Favorable 6/5/07
Senate Health Care Committee Substitute Adopted 6/20/07

Short Title: Amend Psychology Practice Act.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 17, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT AMENDING THE PSYCHOLOGY PRACTICE ACT TO CLARIFY
REQUIREMENTS FOR PERMANENT LICENSURE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 90-270.4(e) reads as rewritten:

"(e) ~~Nothing~~ Subject to subsection (g) of this section, ~~nothing~~ in this Article shall be construed to prevent a qualified members-member of other professional groups licensed or certified under the laws of this State from rendering services within the scope of practice, as defined in the statutes regulating those professional practices, provided ~~they do the person does~~ not hold ~~themselves-himself or herself~~ out to the public by any title or description stating or implying that ~~they are psychologists~~ the person is a psychologist or ~~are~~ licensed, certified, or registered to practice psychology."

SECTION 2. G.S. 90-270.4(g) reads as rewritten:

"(g) Except as ~~otherwise provided in this Article~~, provided in subsection (c) of this section, if a person who is otherwise exempt from the provisions of this Article and not required to be licensed under this Article is or becomes licensed under this Article, he or she shall ~~be required to comply with all conditions, requirements, and obligations imposed by Board rules or by statute upon and statutes applicable to all other psychologists licensed under this Article.~~ Article. These requirements apply regardless of whether the person holds himself or herself out to the public by any title or description stating or implying that the person is a psychologist, a licensed psychological associate, or licensed to practice psychology."

SECTION 3. G.S. 90-270.6 reads as rewritten:

"§ 90-270.6. **Psychology Board; appointment; term of office; composition.**

For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Article, there is created a North Carolina Psychology Board, which shall consist of seven members appointed by the Governor. At all times three members shall be licensed psychologists, two members

1 shall be licensed psychological associates, and two members shall be members of the
2 public who are not licensed under this Article. ~~Each member of the Board must reside in~~
3 ~~a different congressional district at the time of the appointment. Due~~ The Governor shall
4 give due consideration shall also be given to the adequate representation of the various
5 fields and areas of practice of ~~psychology.~~ psychology and to adequate representation
6 from various geographic regions in the State. Terms of office shall be three years. All
7 terms of service on the Board expire June 30 in appropriate years. As the term of a
8 psychologist member expires, or as a vacancy of a psychologist member occurs for any
9 other reason, the North Carolina Psychological Association, or its successor, shall,
10 having sought the advice of the chairs of the graduate departments of psychology in the
11 State, for each vacancy, submit to the Governor a list of the names of three eligible
12 persons. From this list the Governor shall make the appointment for a full term, or for
13 the remainder of the unexpired term, if any. Each Board member shall serve until his or
14 her successor has been appointed. As the term of a member expires, or if one should
15 become vacant for any reason, the Governor shall appoint a new member within 60 days
16 of the vacancy's occurring. No member, either public or licensed under this Article,
17 shall serve more than three complete consecutive terms."

18 **SECTION 4.** G.S. 90-270.13(a) reads as rewritten:

19 "(a) Upon application and payment of the ~~requisite~~ required fee, the Board shall
20 grant permanent licensure at the appropriate level to any person who, at the time of
21 ~~application, is~~ application meets all of the following requirements:

- 22 (1) Is licensed or certified as a psychologist by a similar psychology
23 licensing board in another jurisdiction, whose jurisdiction.
- 24 (2) The license or certification is in good standing, who is standing.
- 25 (3) Is a graduate of an institution of higher education, who passes any
26 education.
- 27 (4) Who passes an examination prescribed by the Board, and who meets
28 Board.
- 29 (5) Meets the definition of a senior psychologist as that term is defined by
30 the rules of the Board."

31 **SECTION 5.** G.S. 90-270.13 is amended by adding a new subsection to
32 read:

33 "(a1) Upon application and payment of the required fee, the Board shall grant
34 permanent licensure at the appropriate level to any person who, at the time of
35 application, meets all of the following requirements:

- 36 (1) Is licensed or certified as a psychologist by a similar psychology
37 licensing board in another jurisdiction.
- 38 (2) The license or certification is in good standing.
- 39 (3) Possesses a doctoral degree in psychology from an institution of higher
40 education.
- 41 (4) Passes an examination prescribed by the Board.
- 42 (5) Has no unresolved complaints in any jurisdiction at the time of
43 application in this State.

1 (6) Holds a current credential for psychology licensure mobility, as
2 defined in rules adopted by the Board."

3 **SECTION 6.** G.S. 90-270.13(f) reads as rewritten:

4 "(f) The Board may deny licensure to any person otherwise eligible for permanent
5 licensure under this ~~subsection~~ section upon documentation of ~~illegal, immoral,~~
6 ~~dishonorable, unprofessional, or unethical~~ conduct as specified in G.S. 90-270.15."

7 **SECTION 7.** This act is effective when it becomes law.