

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2023

H.B. 234  
Feb 28, 2023  
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH10088-ML-75A

Short Title: Conform Privilege Exemptions.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative K. Baker.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT PSYCHIATRISTS AND LICENSED MARRIAGE AND  
3 FAMILY THERAPISTS ARE EXEMPT IN THE SAME MANNER AS CURRENT  
4 EXEMPTIONS FOR SOCIAL WORKERS, CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH  
5 COUNSELORS, AND PSYCHOLOGISTS.  
6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:  
7 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 14-318.6(h) reads as rewritten:  
8 "(h) Nothing in this section shall be construed as to require a person with (i) a privilege  
9 under G.S. 8-53.3, 8-53.7, 8-53.8, or ~~8-53.12~~ or ~~with 8-53.12~~, (ii) attorney-client privilege  
10 privilege, or (iii) psychiatrist-client or patient privilege to report pursuant to this section if that  
11 privilege would prevent them from doing so. Nothing in this section shall be construed as  
12 requiring a licensed marriage and family therapist with a privilege under G.S. 8-53.5 to report  
13 pursuant to this section if that privilege would prevent that person from doing so, but the privilege  
14 only applies to the primary client and not to any other family members. For purposes of this  
15 subsection, the term "primary client" means a person who contracts with a licensed marriage and  
16 family therapist for professional services for the purpose of diagnosis or treatment."  
17 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.



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