

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill makes various changes to the scope of practice for psychologists and psychological practitioners, establishes emeritus registration for psychologists, and provides for mandatory examination or evaluation of practitioners reasonably believed to be impaired.

Section

- 1** **Data classified.** Provides that data obtained by the board of psychology pursuant to required examination or evaluation of a regulated individual are classified according to new section 148.941, subdivision 8 (section 5 of this bill).
- 2** **Scope of practice modified.** Includes various modifications to the definition of "practice of psychology." Includes psychological reports and testimony as expert witness within scope. Provides non-inclusive list of types of psychotherapy included in scope of practice. Adds consultation and supervision to scope.
- 3** **Emeritus registration established.** Provides for an emeritus registration to be available for retired providers who were previously licensed in Minnesota and who have not been subject to disciplinary action and have no unresolved complaints in any jurisdiction. Emeritus registrants pay a one-time \$150 fee and are permitted to use the title "psychologist emeritus" or "psychological practitioner emeritus." The emeritus registration is not a license to practice psychology.
- 4** **Supervision requirement amended.** Provides that supervision, for purposes of postdegree supervised employment, may include interactive visual electronic communication.
- 5** **Examination or evaluations of regulated individuals.** Provides that the board may require a regulated individual to submit to a mental, physical or chemical dependency examination if

Section

there is probable cause to believe that the individual is unable to practice psychology with reasonable skill and safety. Reports or testimony of examiners under this section are not subject to claims of inadmissibility on the basis that they are privileged communications. If a regulated person fails without just cause to submit to a required examination, the board may proceed as if the allegations were true. Board actions following examination may include denial of license application and suspension of license. Individuals affected by this section must be given reasonable opportunities to demonstrate their fitness to resume practice. Records of proceedings under this section are not subject to subpoena and may not be used in any proceeding not commenced by the board.