

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill removes the exception from licensure for city, county, and state agency employees and specified employees of private nonprofit organizations with a primary client population of ethnic minorities. It provides grandparenting provisions so these individuals can become licensed. The bill also makes changes to temporary licensure provisions.

1 License required. Amends §148E.055, subd. 1. Adds that effective July 1, 2014, an individual who is employed by a city, county, or state agency must be licensed by the board if:

- the individual has the title "social worker" or any title incorporating the words "social work," or
- the individual has a bachelor's or graduate degree in social work from an accredited social work program and engages in the practice of social work as defined in this chapter.

Adds that effective July 1, 2014, an individual who is employed by a private nonprofit agency whose primary service focuses on ethnic minority populations, and who is a member of an ethnic minority population served by the agency, is no longer exempt from licensure requirements if:

- the individual has the title "social worker" or any title incorporating the words "social work," or
- the individual has a bachelor's or graduate degree in social work from an accredited social work program and engages in the practice of social work as defined in this chapter.

Provides an effective date of August 1, 2011.

2 License requirements; grandparenting. Creates § 148E.0555.

Subd. 1. Grandparenting period. Requires the board to issue a license to an applicant who meets the requirements of this section and submits a completed, signed application and the required fee between January 1, 2012, and December 31, 2012. Provides that if the applicant

does not submit all information requested by the board by December 31, 2013, the applicant is ineligible.

Subd. 2. Eligible agency personnel. Applicants employed by a county, city, or state agency, or individuals employed by a private nonprofit, nontribal agency who were previously exempt from licensure must provide evidence to the board that at any time within three years of date of application the individual had the title of "social worker" or a title incorporating the words "social work," or was engaged in the practice of social work while employed by that agency for at least six months.

Subd. 3. Qualifications during grandparenting for licensure as LSW. Paragraph (a) lists the educational requirements.

Paragraph (b) requires the applicant to submit a completed, signed application and fee, submit to a criminal background check, pay the license fee, and not have engaged in conduct that would violate professional standards.

Paragraph (c) provides that an incomplete application will be returned.

Paragraph (d) states that by submitting an application, the applicant authorizes the board to investigate any information provided on the application. Allows the board to request additional information.

Paragraph (e) requires the applicant to comply with all requirements and requests for information within one year of the time the board receives the application.

Paragraph (f) allows prelicensure supervised practice hours to be applied to meet the supervision requirements of this section.

Paragraph (g) provides that an alternate supervisor may be used. Identifies the qualifications of an alternative supervisor.

Paragraph (h) requires a licensee to complete all supervised practice requirements, unless the requirements were completed prior to licensure.

Subd. 4. Qualifications during grandparenting for licensure as LGSW. Same as subdivision 3.

Subd. 5. Qualifications during grandparenting for licensure as LISW. Same as subdivision 3.

Subd. 6. Qualifications during grandparenting for licensure as LICSW. Paragraph (a) provides the educational requirements.

Paragraph (b) requires the applicant to submit a completed, signed application and fee, submit to a criminal background check, pay the license fee, and not have engaged in conduct that would violate professional standards.

Paragraph (c) provides that an incomplete application will be returned.

Paragraph (d) states that by submitting an application, the applicant authorizes the board to investigate any information provided on the application. Allows the board to request additional information.

Paragraph (e) requires the applicant to comply with all requirements and request for information within one year of the time the board receives the application.

Provides an effective date of August 1, 2011.

- 3 LISW transition period exception.** Creates § 148E.0556. Provides that between January 1, 2012, and December 31, 2015, to qualify to be an LISW an applicant must submit an application and must be a currently licensed graduate social worker under section 148E.0555, and meet all specified requirements, or hold a current licensed graduate social work license issued through grandparenting prior to July 1, 1996, and meet the specified requirements.

Provides an effective date of August 1, 2011.

- 4 LICSW transition period exception.** Creates § 148E.0557. Provides that between January 1, 2012, and December 31, 2015, to qualify to be an LICSW an applicant must submit an application and must be a currently licensed graduate social worker or licensed independent social worker under section 148E.0555, and meet all specified requirements, or hold a current licensed graduate social work license or licensed independent social worker license issued through grandparenting prior to July 1, 1996, and meet the specified requirements.

Provides an effective date of August 1, 2011.

- 5 Students and other persons not currently licensed in another jurisdiction.** Amends § 148E.060, subd. 1. Adds that a temporary license issued under this section expires after six months.

Provides an effective date of August 1, 2011.

- 6 Emergency situations and persons currently licensed in another jurisdiction.** Amends § 148E.060, subd. 2. Adds that a temporary license issued under this section expires after six months.

Provides an effective date of August 1, 2011.

- 7 Programs in candidacy status.** Amends § 148E.060, by adding subd. 2a. Allows the board to issue a temporary license to practice to a graduate from a social work program in candidacy status when the applicant meets the specified requirements. Provides that a temporary license under this subdivision expires after 12 months, but may extend at the board's discretion if the social work program remains in good standing with the accrediting board.

Provides an effective date of August 1, 2011.

- 8 Teachers.** Amends § 148E.060, subd. 3. . Adds that a temporary license issued under this section expires after 12 months.

Provides an effective date of August 1, 2011.

- 9 Temporary license term.** Amends § 148E.060, subd. 5. Strikes obsolete language.

Provides an effective date of August 1, 2011.

- 10 Students.** Amends § 148E.065, subd. 2. Allows students to use the title "social work intern."

Provides an effective date of August 1, 2011.

- 11 City, county, and state agency workers.** Amends § 148E.065, subd. 4. Adds that a city, county, or state agency workers are not exempt from licensure if the are presented to the public by a title using the terms "social worker" or "social work," or if the individual has a degree from an accredited social work program and engages in the practice of social work as defined in this chapter.
- Provides an effective date of August 1, 2011.
- 12 Tribes and nonprofit agencies; voluntary licensure.** Amends § 148E.065, subd. 5. Provides for voluntary licensure of social workers who are employed by tribes. Adds that an employee of a private nonprofit agency whose primary focus is ethnic minorities and who is an ethnic minority of the population served, is not exempt from licensure if the are presented to the public by a title using the terms "social worker" or "social work," or if the individual has a degree from an accredited social work program and engages in the practice of social work as defined in this chapter.
- Provides an effective date of August 1, 2011.
- 13 Requirements of supervisors.** Amends § 148E.120. Lists the new criteria and requirements for alternate supervisors.
- Provides an effective date of August 1, 2011.
- 14 Representations.** Amends § 148E.195, subd. 2. Makes technical changes to conform with the amendments to exclusion from licensure.
- Provides an effective date of August 1, 2011.
- 15 Use of titles.** Amends § 148E.280. Makes technical changes to conform with the amendments to exclusion from licensure.
- Provides an effective date of August 1, 2011.
- 16 Repealer.** Repeals § 148E.065, subd. 3, which allows for a geographic waiver from licensure requirements.