

SENATE BILL 2365

By Briggs

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 56, Chapter 7, Part 24 and Title 63, Chapter 22, Part 1, relative to mental health service providers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 56-7-2401(a), is amended by deleting the language "as defined in § 63-22-122" and substituting the language "as described in title 63, chapter 22".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-22-104(3), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting:

(3) Has completed a supervised field experience as either a practicum or internship;

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-22-104(4), is amended by deleting the language "subsequent to being granted a master's degree" and substituting the language "subsequent to being granted a degree".

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-22-117(a)(1)(C), is amended by deleting the language "as defined in § 63-22-122".

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-22-118(a), is amended by deleting the language "part, except those contained in § 63-22-122," and substituting the language "part".

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-22-120, is amended by deleting the section and substituting:

A professional counselor licensed under this part and designated as a mental health service provider must have:

(1) Completed coursework specifically related to the diagnosis, treatment, appraisal, and assessment of mental disorders. The board shall promulgate rules in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5, to develop a curriculum composed of courses that directly relate to such diagnosis, treatment, appraisal, and assessment; and

(2) Completed two (2) years of postgraduate supervised experience required for licensure in a clinical setting that provides substantial opportunities to diagnose, treat, appraise, and assess mental disorders.

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-22-121(a), is amended by deleting subdivisions (4) through (6) and substituting the following:

(4) If an applicant is granted a temporary license, the license shall remain valid until the board grants the regular license.

(5) The applicant shall notify the board and present supporting documentation demonstrating the satisfactory completion of the required postgraduate supervised experience in a clinical setting. The board shall then grant or deny the license application based on satisfactory completion of all requirements for licensure.

SECTION 8. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-22-121(a)(2), is amended by deleting the language "the functions specified in § 63-22-122(5)," and substituting the language "counseling as a mental health service provider".

SECTION 9. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-22-122, is amended by deleting the section.

SECTION 10. This act takes effect January 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it, and applies to persons making application for initial licensure, licensure renewal, and licensure reinstatement after July 1, 2022.