

SHORT TITLE: Professions and occupations; relating to license to practice social work; modifying certain exemption; effective date.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 46th Legislature (1998)

SENATE BILL NO. 766

By: Milacek

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to professions and occupations;

amending 59 O.S. 1991, Section 1251, which relates to license to practice social work; modifying certain exemption; clarifying statutory references; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 1991, Section 1251, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1251. A. In order to safeguard the welfare of the people of the State of Oklahoma, no person shall engage in the practice of social work for compensation or hold himself or herself forth as performing the services of a social worker unless he or she is licensed as a licensed social worker or licensed social work associate in this state, nor may any person participate in the delivery of social work service unless under the supervision of a person licensed under these provisions, and no person may use any title, abbreviation, sign, card or device incorporating the words "social worker" or a derivative thereof unless such person has been duly licensed under the provisions of ~~this law~~ the Social Worker's Licensing Act.

B. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to prevent qualified persons from doing work within the standards and ethics of

their respective professions. Provided, that such persons shall not hold themselves out to the public by any title or description of services as being engaged in the practice of social work.

C. ~~Employees~~ 1. Except as provided in paragraph 2 of this subsection, employees of agencies of the state shall be exempt from the requirements of ~~this act~~ the Social Worker's Licensing Act as to the performance of their duties as state employees ~~or health care facilities~~ or employees of health care facilities licensed by the state.

2. The exemption provided for in paragraph 1 of this subsection shall not apply to employees of state agencies or of health care facilities licensed by the state who are hired on or after July 1, 2000.

D. 1. As a requirement for licensure, a license obtained pursuant to the Social Worker's Licensing Act shall be posted in a conspicuous place where the services of the social worker obtaining such license are rendered.

2. Information regarding the procedure for reporting any unethical or illegal practices pursuant to the Social Worker's Licensing Act shall be made available to the public by the social worker or employer of such social worker, as applicable, in the location where services of the social worker are rendered.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 1998.

46-2-1788

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