

An Act relating to professions and occupations; amending 59 O.S. 2001, Sections 1250.1, 1251, 1253, 1254, 1255, 1261.1, 1261.4, 1261.5, 1261.6, 1262, 1263, 1267, 1270 and 1272, which relate to the Social Worker's Licensing Act; modifying definitions and defining terms; modifying application of certain provisions; updating references; modifying qualifications for Board membership; deleting Board authority to appoint specified personnel; providing for responsibility, duties, powers and authority of Board; establishing qualifications for Board members; deleting obsolete language; providing for reappointment to Board; modifying term of appointment; modifying criteria for removal from Board; authorizing Board to hire employees; making language gender neutral; providing for election of certain Board officers; providing for duties of Board members; establishing terms for Board officers; deleting specified Board procedures, meeting schedules, and duties; providing for Board meeting schedule; requiring compliance with certain acts; specifying need and basis for a quorum; providing for Board responsibilities and additional powers and duties; requiring social workers to report certain information to Board; establishing deadline for such reports; providing for certain immunity for reports submitted in good faith; establishing requirements for licensure; modifying accreditation body; establishing qualifications for certain licensure types; mandating license renewal, establishing renewal requirements, requiring Board to promulgate rules regarding renewal and establishing procedures for renewal after expiration date; establishing requirements for transfer of license and limiting type of license which may be transferred; modifying name of certain license type; modifying procedures for obtaining certain license under specified conditions; deleting specified fees for temporary license; providing for replacement of provisional license; providing for revocation of license under certain conditions and for reapplication; broadening application of prohibition relating to disclosure; broadening application of certain licensure provision; deleting certain fee amounts; providing for use of certain titles and abbreviations; establishing grounds for certain Board actions; authorizing Board to defer action under specified conditions; establishing conditions for deferral; providing procedures for disqualification under certain conditions; authorizing Board to require licensee to enter into specified agreement; establishing conditions for Board approval to resume practice; requiring consent to release of information; providing for stay of license suspension or revocation; requiring specified report by social worker; providing immunity from liability under specified circumstances; providing certain licensees with right to petition Board; authorizing Board to issue certain orders and specifying contents; construing provisions of law; subjecting certain Board decisions to judicial review; requiring return of license under certain conditions; broadening application of revocation provision and procedures; clarifying language and broadening application of penalty provision; deleting specified fine amounts; providing penalty; making certain practices unlawful; making certain practices subject to regulation; providing for construction of limit on practice; providing certain exemption from licensure; providing for temporary suspension of license without hearing; requiring notice and hearing; specifying period for notice; providing for construction of limit on practice for specified titles; repealing 59 O.S. 2001, Sections 1256, 1261.3, 1266, 1269, 1271 and 1272.1, which relate to powers and duties of Board, licensure and denial of licensure of certain persons, reinstatement, Board authority to request injunction, and disclosure of information; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.