

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 51st Legislature (2007)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

4 FOR ENGROSSED

5 SENATE BILL NO. 620

By: Rice of the Senate

and

Steele of the House

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9 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

10 An Act relating to professions and occupations;
11 amending 59 O.S. 2001, Sections 1935, as amended by
12 Section 15, Chapter 523, O.S.L. 2004 and 1945 (59
13 O.S. Supp. 2006, Section 1935), which relate to
14 licensed behavioral health practitioners; deleting
15 certain requirements for licensure; extending certain
16 deadline; amending Section 1, Chapter 138, O.S.L.
2003, as last amended by Section 24, Chapter 523,
17 O.S.L. 2004 (59 O.S. Supp. 2006, Section 493.5),
18 which relates to special volunteer medical license;
19 expanding eligibility for certain physicians;
20 providing exception to indirect compensation; and
21 providing an effective date.

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

23 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2001, Section 1935, as
24 amended by Section 15, Chapter 523, O.S.L. 2004 (59 O.S. Supp. 2006,
Section 1935), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1935. A. Applications for a license to practice as a
licensed behavioral practitioner shall be made to the State

1 Department of Health in writing. Such applications shall be on a
2 form and in a manner prescribed by the State Commissioner of Health.
3 The application shall be accompanied by the fee required by the
4 Licensed Behavioral Practitioner Act, which shall be retained by the
5 State Department of Health and not returned to the applicant.

6 B. Each applicant for a license to practice as a licensed
7 behavioral practitioner shall:

8 1. Be possessed of good moral character;

9 2. Pass an examination based on standards promulgated by the
10 State Board of Health pursuant to the Licensed Behavioral
11 Practitioner Act;

12 3. Be at least twenty-one (21) years of age;

13 4. Not have engaged in, nor be engaged in, any practice or
14 conduct which would be grounds for denying, revoking, or suspending
15 a license pursuant to the Licensed Behavioral Practitioner Act; and

16 5. Otherwise comply with the rules promulgated by the Board
17 pursuant to the provisions of the Licensed Behavioral Practitioner
18 Act.

19 C. In addition to the qualifications specified by the
20 provisions of subsection B of this section, an applicant for a
21 license to practice as a licensed behavioral practitioner shall
22 have:

23 1. Successfully completed at least forty-five (45) graduate
24 semester hours (sixty (60) graduate quarter hours) of behavioral

1 science-related course work. These forty-five (45) hours shall
2 include at least a master's degree from a program in psychology.
3 All course work and degrees shall be earned from a regionally
4 accredited college or university. The State Board of Health shall
5 define what course work qualifies as "behavioral science-related";

6 2. On or after January 1, 2008, successfully completed at
7 least sixty (60) graduate semester hours (ninety (90) graduate
8 quarter hours) of behavioral science-related course work. These
9 sixty (60) hours shall include at least a master's degree from a
10 program in psychology. All courses shall be earned from a
11 regionally accredited college or university ~~and all degrees shall be~~
12 ~~earned from a program accredited by the Master's in Psychology~~
13 ~~Accreditation Council (MPAC), its designees or successors.~~

14 The Board shall define what course work qualifies as "behavioral
15 science-related"; and

16 3. Three (3) years of supervised full-time experience in
17 professional behavioral health services subject to the supervision
18 of a licensed mental health professional pursuant to conditions
19 established by the Board. One (1) or two (2) years of experience
20 may be gained at the rate of one (1) year for each thirty (30)
21 graduate semester hours earned beyond the master's degree, provided
22 that such hours are clearly related to the field of psychology or
23 behavioral sciences and are acceptable to the Board. The applicant
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1 shall have no less than one (1) year of supervised full-time
2 experience in behavioral science.

3 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2001, Section 1945, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 Section 1945. A. A professional specialty designation area may
6 be established by the State Department of Health upon receipt of a
7 petition signed by fifteen qualified persons who are currently
8 licensed as licensed behavioral practitioners, who have acquired at
9 least sixty (60) semester hours, to increase to seventy-five (75)
10 semester hours on and after January 1, ~~2005~~ 2008, of graduate credit
11 in behavioral science or psychology-related course work from a
12 regionally accredited college or university, and who meet the
13 recognized minimum standards as established by appropriate
14 nationally recognized certification agencies; provided, however, if
15 a nationally recognized certification does not exist, the Department
16 may establish minimum standards for specialty designations.

17 B. Upon receipt of credentials from the appropriate
18 certification agency, the Department may grant the licensed
19 behavioral practitioner the appropriate specialty designation. The
20 licensed behavioral practitioner may attain specialty designation
21 through examination. A licensed behavioral practitioner shall not
22 claim or advertise a behavioral health specialty and shall not
23 incorporate the specialty designation into the professional title of
24 such licensed behavioral practitioner unless the qualifications and

1 certification requirements of that specialty have been met and have
2 been approved by the Department and the appropriate certification
3 agency.

4 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 138, O.S.L.
5 2003, as last amended by Section 24, Chapter 523, O.S.L. 2004 (59
6 O.S. Supp. 2006, Section 493.5), is amended to read as follows:

7 Section 493.5 A. There is established a special volunteer
8 medical license for physicians who are retired from active practice
9 or actively licensed in another state and practicing in that state
10 and wish to donate their expertise for the medical care and
11 treatment of indigent and needy persons of ~~the~~ this state. The
12 special volunteer medical license shall be:

- 13 1. Issued by the State Board of Medical Licensure and
14 Supervision to eligible physicians;
- 15 2. Issued without the payment of an application fee, license
16 fee or renewal fee;
- 17 3. Issued or renewed without any continuing education
18 requirements in this state;
- 19 4. Issued for a fiscal year or part thereof; and
- 20 5. Renewable annually upon approval of the Board.

21 B. A physician must meet the following requirements to be
22 eligible for a special volunteer medical license:
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1 1. Completion of a special volunteer medical license
2 application, including documentation of the physician's medical
3 school graduation and practice history;

4 2. Documentation that the physician has been previously issued
5 a full and unrestricted license to practice medicine in Oklahoma or
6 in another state of the United States and that he or she has never
7 been the subject of any medical disciplinary action in any
8 jurisdiction;

9 3. Acknowledgement and documentation that the physician's
10 practice under the special volunteer medical license will be
11 exclusively and totally devoted to providing medical care to needy
12 and indigent persons in Oklahoma or to providing care under the
13 Oklahoma Medical Reserve Corps; and

14 4. Acknowledgement and documentation that the physician will
15 not receive or have the expectation to receive any payment or
16 compensation, either direct or indirect, for any medical services
17 rendered in this state under the special volunteer medical license.
18 The only exception to the indirect compensation provision is for
19 those out-of-state physicians that participate in the free medical
20 care given by means of Telemedicine through the Shriners Hospitals
21 for Children national network.

22 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 2007.

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24 51-1-7813 SAB 04/10/07